

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Home thoughts...
Charles McKean predicts that houses will be collapsing in the streets if the Government does not step in to improve Britain's housing stock.

From abroad
The latest books about life and politics in the Soviet Union are reviewed by Count Nikolai Tolstoy and Iain Elliott.

Rum...
As Jamaica goes to the polls, a report on Edward Seaga's constitutional gamble.

And coke
From Colombia, a disturbing analysis of South America's secret weapon - cocaine.

Candy king...



... at the Court of St James: Charles Price, the Kansas City candy tycoon who is the new US Ambassador to Britain, is the subject of The Times Profile.

Regional aid shake-up

Radical changes in the pattern of regional aid to industry are proposed in a White Paper from Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Industry. It envisages a cut in spending, favours service industries, and calls for lower wages in areas of high unemployment. **Page 2**

Sterling drops to all-time low

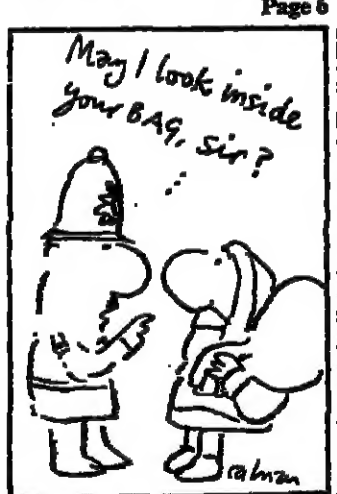
The pound fell below \$1.42 for the first time and weakened against other currencies as speculation over North Sea oil prices combined with the continued strength of the dollar. **Page 15**

Mosley's friend

Sir Oswald Mosley, the British fascist leader told interrogators in 1940 that Adolf Hitler was a charming if emotional man who liked him. **Page 3**

Ozal's choice

Turkey's first civilian Cabinet since the 1980 military coup named by Mr Turgut Ozal, the Prime Minister, was approved by President Evren. Fighting inflation will be its top priority. **Page 6**



Nanny's fires

The paranormal took a back seat at the Italian trial of Scottish nanny Carol Compton as a formidable governess gave evidence on the fires that led to the girl's arrest. **Page 8**

Bowled out

An attempt to hasten the reduction in the number of overseas players in England failed at a Test and County Cricket Board meeting. **Page 20**

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Murray's future at stake after his repudiation of NGA

By Paul Routledge and David Felton

The future of Mr. James Murray is at stake after his repudiation of support for the National Graphical Association (NGA) led to the abandonment of a planned unlawful one-day strike.

The 51 members of the TUC General Council have been called into emergency session to decide whether the labour movement should back Mr Murray's policy of respect for the law or left-wing union leaders who seek continuing defiance of the Government's trade union legislation.

Both sides were anxiously counting heads last night before the "vote of confidence" on the conduct of Mr Murray which was denounced by the NGA general secretary, Mr Joe Wade, as unprecedented and divisive.

Mr Murray's critics were confident of winning the vote, but moderates rallying to his cause were equally sure that they would carry the day.

The planned 24-hour strike in national and local newspapers was suspended yesterday at a meeting of the NGA's governing national council. Afterwards union officials vented their anger at Mr Murray's repudiation of the decision of the TUC employment policy and organization committee to adopt a "supportive" attitude towards the protest strike.

NGA leaders complained about Mr Murray's action in publicly rejecting the committee's nine-to-seven vote in favour of the strike. Mr Wade said: "The dispute will continue, and in the meantime I hope Mr Murray's repudiation of the committee decision will be rejected by the general council."

He predicted that "this unprecedented action" would

encourage many more trade unionists to join a mass demonstration in Warrington, Cheshire, this afternoon. It is being organized by the North-West TUC to protest against the refusal of Mr Selim (Eddie) Shah, chairman of Messenger Group newspapers to reinstate six dismissed NGA workers and grant the union a closed shop.

Mr Shah said yesterday that he is going ahead with suits claiming £90,000 damages from the union to cover the cost of alleged damage done to his printing works at Winwick Quay during mass picketing.

Strike costs 2
Parliament 4
Leading article 13

that so far has cost the union £875,000 in fines for contempt of court orders made under the Employment Acts, 1980 and 1982.

In the High Court in London, injunctions preventing the NGA from reimposing its threatened strike were granted to provincial newspaper groups, including Westminster Press, Essex County Newspapers, Berrows Newspapers, Northern Counties Newspapers, and United Newspapers.

Mirror Group Newspapers became the last Fleet Street publishing house to win a similar order restraining the



Battle joined: Mr Murray (left) and Mr Wade.

union from disrupting production with secondary industrial action.

The industrial argument will take second place today to the fierce political infighting in the TUC.

Led by the Transport and General Workers' Union, Mr Murray's critics will argue that he has exceeded his authority in publicly denouncing a decision of the general council and that he had no legal ground for arguing that a general message of support for the NGA strike would attract legal action against the TUC of the kind already taken against the craft print union.

If Mr Murray fails in his attempt to limit TUC support for the NGA he will be obliged (in the words of one of his critics) to "consider his position".

TUC officials refuse to countenance the possibility of the general secretary's resigning, but some union leaders are pointing to the precedent set by Mr Sidney Weighell, who left his post as general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen a year ago after losing a vote of confidence.

Mr Murray will argue that he was compelled to repudiate the committee decision publicly because if he had not done so the TUC would have been risking contempt of court penalties for supporting an unlawful strike and damages possibly amounting to many millions of pounds.

His supporters were suggesting last night a 25-21 majority for the general secretary, but the result will hinge on how many moderates take part in the vote. Failure to attend by five key backers of Mr Murray's position led to his defeat in the employment committee meeting.

Continued on back page, col 3

Kinnock and Thatcher clash

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, in the middle of furious Commons exchanges with the Prime Minister over the National Graphical Association dispute, said yesterday that he had no intention of condoning law-breaking.

But he added, after being asked by Mrs Margaret Thatcher to condemn the NGA for contravening the law, that he also had no intention of being a drill sergeant for "divisive and ruinous Tory legislation", which had turned a union problem into a "national industrial volcano".

Mr Kinnock's remarks, which neatly encapsulated the dilemma into which Labour leaders have been placed by the dispute, came after the Prime Minister had refused his demands to intervene by asking the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service to convene a committee of inquiry. "She has a direct and absolute responsibility and the buck stops with her", Mr Kinnock said.

The Prime Minister retorted that it was clear that what the Opposition really wanted was the Government to force Mr

Selim ("Eddie") Shah, chairman of the Messenger Newspaper group, to give in to the union's unreasonable demands. The British people wanted, and had voted for, the law to uphold the right of employees to reject the closed shop.

She said that the TUC believed in upholding the law. "The law is indivisible. You cannot choose which parts to uphold and which not to uphold. They should all be upheld."

Mr Kinnock accused the Prime Minister of "dodging" her obligations.

Trident bill could rise by £1,375m

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The devaluation of the pound against the dollar could have added £1,375m to the bill for the Trident nuclear deterrent since 1980.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, has taken a political decision that Trident costs will not be updated on a regular basis. The latest official costing of £7,500m, is therefore based on 1981 prices and exchange rates.

But the 1982 defence estimates stated that the September, 1980, costing of £5,990m had been increased by "some £700m" because of the fall of the value of the pound from \$2.36 to \$1.78 in September, 1981.

This year's defence estimates said that 45 per cent of the Trident programme would be spent, in dollars, in the United States "and hence the recent fall in the exchange rate, if sustained throughout the life of the project, would result in increased costs".

The latest exchange rate, of \$1.42 to the pound, represents a

further devaluation of more than 20 per cent on the September, 1983, rates used by the Ministry of Defence.

That fall in the value of the pound could represent a further £675m increase in Trident costs, without the price rises which will have resulted from inflation.

The Ministry of Defence emphasized last night that Trident expenditure was not expected to reach a peak until the last few years of the 1980s and, therefore, the effect of the devaluation was not, for the moment, significant. It did say, however, that the range of "uncertainty" in defence spending, resulting from exchange rate fluctuations, was about £100m to £200m a year.

Mr Heseltine told *The Times* earlier this month that Trident would be a central issue between the Conservatives and Labour at the next election because decisions taken by the next Parliament would affect the independent British nuclear deterrent.

QE2 cruise delayed by engine fault

By Michael Bailly, Transport Editor

The Queen Elizabeth 2 arrived back from her £4.5 refit in Germany last night eight hours late because of engine trouble. A fault developed in a boiler soon after the 67,000-ton ship left the shipyard at Bremerhaven.

However, Cunard did not blame the Germans for the trouble. Work, it is believed, was carried out on the boilers in Germany - but by British contractors.

The ship anchored in the river outside the yard, and engineers on board carried out repairs.

She docked at Southampton at about midnight. During the delay nearly 1,500 passengers, who were expecting to sail on her five hours earlier, were winced and dined by Cunard in Southampton. She was due to sail at about 4am on a three-day cruise of the English Channel for which passengers had paid between £145 and £565 each.



Memorable meeting: The Duchess of Kent in deep conversation with Mr William Webb (left) and Mr Bertie Pearson, both of Gillingham. She was attending a Christmas party at Buckingham Palace for the Not Forgotten Association.

US and Israeli ships shell Palestinians and Syrians

Securely had President

Gemayel left Lebanon for Britain yesterday and both the American and Israeli navies launched simultaneous though separate bombardments of Palestinian and Syrian Army positions near the Lebanese coast.

Two American guided-missile destroyers steamed off the coast of Beirut after the Christian Front of Jihadists during the afternoon and fired a barrage of 5in shells on to Syrian positions in the mountains east of Beirut after the Syrians had earlier fired at American reconnaissance jets while 30 miles to the north Israeli gunboats opened up on Palestinian guerrillas in the northern port of Tripoli.

It was clear that American flights over the Choeft mountains had been interrupted during the afternoon when naval jets from the Sixth Fleet began overflying Beirut in pairs at low level, swooping over the Mediterranean and then returning over the foothills to break the sound barrier not far from the Syrian Army's forward artillery positions above the capital.

Soon afterwards, the USS Triconderoga and another American warship moved close

to the shore 12 miles north of the capital and began firing towards the mountains, the shells landing near the snow-line not far from the town of Dour Shweir where Syrian troops maintain one of their foremost positions.

The Syrians confirmed that their ground fire had been directed at two US F14 jets but described the subsequent American naval fire as a new aggression, claiming rather unconvincingly that it only a damaged military vehicle.

Syrian officials stated after America's air raids just over a week ago that the Syrian Army would continue to shoot at US reconnaissance jets. They appear to have meant what they said.

At almost exactly the same time as the American naval shelling, Israeli gunboats appeared off Tripoli and began firing towards the port area of the city where Mr Yassir Arafat's guerrillas are preparing to be evacuated over the coming fortnight.

Beirut radio reported that the naval bombardment lasted for 45 minutes and that scores of shells fell into the harbour area. The Israelis gave no reason for the barrage but denied a Palestinian claim that one of their vessels had been hit by fire from a PLO long-range gun.

Only a few hours earlier, Palestinian dissidents who are surrounding Mr Arafat's forces in Tripoli had warned that they would resume their siege of the city if the PLO leader did not sail from the port by December 21.

A spokesman at the Palestinian Fatah guerrilla offices in Damascus, undoubtedly echoing Syria's own views, claimed that Mr Arafat was deliberately delaying his own evacuation and that any bloodshed that followed further postponement would be his own responsibility.

Continued on back page, col 5

Kamikaze attack feared at Los Angeles Games

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The latest car bombings in Kuwait have raised concern among United States security officials that terrorist groups may use "human bombs" to carry out future kamikaze-style attacks on Americans and other Western targets.

A report in the *Washington Post* yesterday quoted Administration officials as saying that the use of fanatics seeking martyrdom in suicide attacks had "opened up a whole new spectrum of violence".

The officials said they were on the look-out for "human bombs, people walking around with TNT strapped to their bodies".

Although United States officials are mainly concerned about further suicide attacks in the Middle East, where the radical Shia Muslims believed responsible for the recent

attacks are based, they are also concerned that outbreaks of kamikaze-style terrorism may be attempted in the United States.

They pointed out that two months ago an Israeli tourist was arrested in the public gallery of the House of Representatives with explosives strapped to his body.

Recently lorries, cars and other obstacles were used to block off entrances to the White House and the State Department after a warning that a car-bomb attack was being planned.

American officials are particularly concerned that the forthcoming Olympic Games in Los Angeles or the World's Fair in New Orleans could be singled out for terrorist attacks. They said it was almost impossible to guarantee protection of such events against suicide bombers.

Thatcher faces setback over vital defence job

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Prime Minister is expected tonight to suffer a reverse in the management of her party in Parliament when Conservative backbench defence specialists choose a chairman for the all-party Select Committee on Defence.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher's candidate is Sir Humphrey Atkins, whom she has long sought to reward for his service as Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and his resignation from the Foreign Office with his ministerial colleagues, Lord Carrington and Mr Richard Luce, at the time of the Falkland invasion.

However, most of the seven Conservatives nominated to the committee opposed him on the grounds that he has shown little interest in defence, in



Contenders (from left): Mr Michael Mates, Mr Michael Marshall, Sir Humphrey Atkins, Mr Winston Churchill.

spite of service in the Royal Navy. Labour's three nominees share these doubts.

Many MPs even say Mrs Thatcher would like this potentially critical committee to have a chairman who will give her little trouble.

Most of the nominees advocate strong defences for Britain, and the committee, if vigorously led, might form an

awkward alliance with Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence if defence spending came under renewed pressure.

More than the defence chairmanship, however, is at stake. If Sir Humphrey were chosen he would also become, on seniority grounds, chairman of the Liaison Committee.

This committee co-ordinates the work of all Commons select committees, and decides which supply estimates are debated by the Commons. Its chairman, formerly Mr Edward De Courcey, has potentially one of the most influential backbench voices, and most Prime Ministers probably would prefer a tame incumbent.

There are MPs in all parties who hope this will happen. Those who want the departmental committees, first set up in the last Parliament, to be effective monitors of the executive believe experience is essential and that every committee should choose its chairman from those who have already given some service.

Above all, there is more than the usual resentment of Mrs Thatcher's use, or attempted use, of patronage to fill posts which backbenchers regard as their own.

Four of the seven Conservatives are candidates - Mr Michael Mates, Mr Michael Marshall, Mr Winston Churchill and Sir Humphrey. The three Labour nominees, Dr John Gilbert, Mr Bruce George and Mr Dick Douglas, would accept either of Mr Mates or Mr Marshall, each of whom served with them on the committee in the last Parliament.

But the winner has to emerge in the Conservative group, where last night it appeared that Mr Churchill would have only his own vote, and his three rivals two votes each in the first round.

London fear after IRA bomb

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

A Provisional IRA bomb planted close to one of London's main shopping streets and aimed at bringing havoc to Christmas crowds was disarmed by a Scotland Yard explosives team yesterday.

The bomb containing 10lbs or more of commercial explosives attached to a timing device would have created damage for up to 200 yards. It was left against a wall in Phillimore Gardens, just off Kensington High Street shortly before the shopping crowds were swollen by office workers on their lunch break.

Police also had to deal with three other suspect packages in the high street which was closed from midday until after dusk. Police believe the packages may have been deliberately left to use up police resources and disrupt shopping.

Last night Commander William Huckleby, head of the Yard's anti-terrorist squad, said the disarmed device clearly indicated the start of a Provisional IRA Christmas bombing campaign in London. He repeated earlier warnings to the public to be alert and on the guard.

Mr Huckleby said the bomb was only partially destroyed in a controlled explosion and it was a sophisticated device which "would have devastated an area of up to 200 yards away".

He said that the bomb bore similarities to IRA bombs seen in London in recent years and there was no doubt it was the work of the organization, but he could not say that it was from the same source as a device which damaged the guard house at Woolwich Arsenal last weekend.

Mr Huckleby said the bomb had been left without any warning and the aim was clearly to disrupt Kensington High Street. He said: "It was aimed to do as much damage as possible and to kill indiscriminately."

The bomb was left in a holdall near the entrance of a large block of private flats, Troy Court. It was first seen by a passerby who alerted a traffic warden.

Explosives experts partially detonated the device by remote control.

As the other suspect packages were discovered dotted along the street, several of them in shops, police cleared the length of the normally busy shopping centre. Dogs trained to sniff out explosives were brought in and the explosives experts, wearing blast-proof clothing and armour, moved from one package to the next. Several were examined using a robot device first developed in Northern Ireland.

At one stage a police helicopter flew overhead using a loud hailer to warn people to keep away from windows and the street was finally reopened just as the day's shopping hours ended. **Photograph, page 2**

THE FAMOUS GROUSE
FINEST SCOTCH WHISKY
Blended Scotch Whisky
Perth, Scotland
Produced in Scotland

Quality in an age of change.

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The White Paper's proposals tie in with the recent submission by the Treasury to the National Economic Develop-

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The survey to which more than 80 per cent of maternity hospitals and one in five consultant obstetricians replied, ers and babies

One Birth in Nine: Maternity Alliance, 309 Kentish Town Road, London NW5 £2.00.



The Children's Society

A bomb-disposal robot in Kensington High Street after Christmas shoppers were cleared yesterday (Photograph: John Evans)

By David Cross

The latest report on health and safety in manufacturing and servicing industries, which Mr Hammer was introducing, showed that during the three years from 1980 24 per cent of fatal accidents within the responsibility of the factory inspectorate involved maintenance work. Most of the deaths were in factories (110) and in the construction industry (129).

The increased use of outside contractors was accompanied with reduced manning levels in

| Fatal injuries by industry | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| | 1977 |
| Manufacturing | 151 |
| Construction | 123 |
| Port and inland water | 1 |
| Other | 2 |
| All industries | 328 |

| 1979 | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 |
|------|------|------|------|
| 147 | 123 | 105 | 120 |
| 119 | 128 | 88 | 97 |
| 14 | 9 | 6 | 9 |
| 35 | 34 | 25 | 30 |
| 315 | 294 | 236 | 256 |

| | 1978 | 1979 | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Manufacturing | 157 | 147 | 123 | 105 | 120 |
| Construction | 121 | 119 | 128 | 98 | 97 |
| Port and inland water | 13 | 14 | 9 | 8 | 9 |
| Other | 29 | 35 | 34 | 25 | 30 |
| All industries | 320 | 315 | 294 | 236 | 256 |

By Rupert Morris

The union's 24-hour stoppage of national newspapers on November 25 led to injunctions and damages claims from 12 publishers amounting to £3m.

Yesterday's threatened strike would have led to a similar damages claim from Fleet Street for £3m, plus a claim from local newspaper publishers which

By Thomson Prentice

Since November 30, when the Master of the Rolls, Sir John Donaldson, made the sequestration order, the four partners have been trying to track down every penny of the NGA's assets, in total more than £11 m.

By Barrie Clement, Labor Reporter

workers were not trained or equipped to tackle dangerous leaks such as those at Three Mile Island in the United States, representatives said.

Mr. Rodney Bickersstaffe, general secretary of the

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

editor of *The Times*, said it would be difficult, probably impossible, to differentiate seriously between the degree of molestation that occurred in what was obviously a very confused situation. Three news-
men including *The Times*

Similar complaints to the Press Council from Ms Francis, accusing the *Daily Telegraph* and the *Scottish Daily Express*

The miniature sale totalled £230,099 with 11 per cent unsold. The Beaufort minia-

By Harry Golombek

It is most unlikely that Korchnoi will recover from this

The first of 15 Phantom supersonic fighters which the Royal Air Force is buying from the United States Navy for £46m are beginning a six-month overhaul to extend their operational life.

The RAF needs the aircraft to offset the one squadron of its Phantoms which has been stationed in the Falkland Islands.

It is most unlikely that Korchnoi will recover from this

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

Overseas selling prices

Austria Sch 225; Belgium Frs 550; Canada
\$2.75; Denmark Dkr 1,200; France Frs 550
Danzburg Dkr 8.00; Finland Mks 5.00
Germany DM 1,000; Greece Grs 1,000
France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 1,000
Greece Grs 1,000; Holland Gld 5.00
Italy Lit 1,200; Japan Yen 1,200
Sw 35; Spain Ptas 1,200; Sweden Sfr 5.00
Norway Kr 7.00; Pakistan Rup 12; Portugal
Esc 125; Singapore S\$ 5.00; Spain Ptas 1,200
Sweden Sfr 5.00; Switzerland Sfr 5.00
Turkey Lira 0.700; USA \$1.00; Yugoslavia
Din 100

69% of
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Monte Carlo
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مَكْنَزٌ مِنَ الْأَصْلِ

69% of house-owners 'want conveyancing monopoly to be ended'

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

A national survey conducted for the Consumers' Association this month indicates that 69 per cent of house-owners believe that it would be good if people other than solicitors were allowed to convey property.

It also emerges from the survey, conducted by Marplan among more than 1,400 people, that 46 per cent of those questioned think that the solicitors' conveyancing monopoly should be ended, compared with 20 per cent who think the monopoly is a good thing, 13 per cent who have doubts about it, and 20 per cent who have no opinion.

Of 899 house-owners in the sample, 52 per cent believe that the system should be changed.

The results of the survey were announced at a press conference yesterday by Mr Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Great Grimsby, whose House Buyers Bill has its second reading on Friday. He said that the figures indicated that public opinion was overwhelmingly in favour. That was essential when fighting a vested interest.

Mr Mitchell said he believed that it was "touch and go" whether there would be a majority for the Bill on its second reading. "I think the prospects are 50-50".

The Bill is supported by the Labour Party, for which it is a manifesto commitment, and, according to Mr Richard Ryder, Conservative MP for Norfolk Mid, one of the Bill's sponsors, has the support of many senior government ministers as well as a hard core of Conservative MPs.

"It would surprise and disappoint me if their view did not prevail. I would be disappointed if the Government did not come out in its favour", Mr Ryder added.

A further boost to its hopes lies with a commitment of support from the leaders of the three opposition parties, Mr Neil Kinnock, Mr David Steel, and Mr David Owen.

Mr Kenneth Weetich, Labour MP for Ipswich, another sponsor, is optimistic that they will win a majority.

He thought that on a free vote of the full House the Bill would have a handsome majority, but the difficulty was that the second reading takes place on the last Friday of the session when many MPs will want to be away to their constituencies.

Mr David Trench, the Consumers' Association legal officer, said he believed the Marplan survey indicated that there was

a big majority of people looking for the kind of changes that the Bill would produce.

He added that one monopoly must not be replaced by another. He did not want the right to convey property merely extended to solicitors working for building societies or banks. There must be outside competition.

"Only when conveyancing becomes genuinely competitive, with properly licensed non-solicitors as well as solicitors, banks and building societies all undertaking conveyancing, will consumers get the choice they so clearly want and our system of house transfer begin to move into the twentieth century", he said.

The House Buyers Bill is intended to speed and make cheaper and more efficient the system of buying and selling houses by stimulating competition.

Mr Richard Ottaway, Conservative MP for Nottingham North and a solicitor, has decided to risk the wrath of the Law Society by voting for the House Buyers Bill on second reading (Philip Webster writes). He said yesterday that he believes it is in the public interest to have more competition.



Concerted effort: Cassie Bell and Hiroko Nagano from Fitzjohns primary school, Hampstead, London, who were among 2,000 London schoolchildren who joined numerous stars for a carol-singing concert at Wembley Conference Centre yesterday to raise money for the charity Motability. (Photograph: Bill Warhurst.)

Doctors' skills 'wasted'

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

BMA seeks hospital cash shift

Waiting lists could be shortened, money saved and patients given better and quicker treatment by shifting resources from hospitals to family doctor services, the British Medical Association's general practitioners committee said yesterday.

In a report on the state of general practice, the general medical services committee argues that family doctor services have been neglected and doctors' skills wasted, despite governments' commitment to the idea of care to the community.

The share of National Health Service resources spent on family doctor services has fallen from 10 per cent in the 1950s to about 6 per cent, the report says.

Dr John Ball, committee chairman, said that shifting the balance of care and resources from hospitals to family doctors

would mean treatment could be given more economically and effectively.

Doctors could undertake much more minor surgery, reducing waiting lists and the time and money spent on hospital referrals. Many repeat visits by outpatients for diabetes, hypertension and chest disorders could be handled by family doctors, as could paediatric surveillance, the checks on children's development up to the age of five.

With more nursing and other staff chronically ill and elderly patients could be better cared for at home, releasing hospital beds.

Such developments, Dr Ball said, would relieve hospitals of burdens they do not need to carry.

At present, he said, hospitals were sending home patients more quickly, adding to the work of family doctors, but

resources were not being given to general practice to meet the extra work.

"Many brave statements are made about transferring care to the community." But although the Government was prepared to transfer the responsibility and the obligation, it was not ready to transfer resources to enable the job to be done properly, he said.

At the same time false economies were being made as hospitals sent patients with only two days' supply of drugs, or minimum amounts of dialysis fluid for kidney patients using the ambulatory dialysis technique. That reduced hospitals' spending, but saved the NHS nothing as family doctors had then to prescribe the medication.

General Practice, A British Success (British Medical Association, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP, £5).

BL Montego named after Ford saloon

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

The BL car with the code-name LM11, to be called the Montego.

The name has been registered by Ford and used on one of its big Mercury saloons made in Detroit in the early 1970s. It is understood, however, that Ford has given Austin Rover permission to use the name in Britain and Europe.

Sneak pictures of the Montego, a challenger to Ford's Sierra and Vauxhall's Cavalier in the mass-market upper-medium sector, were taken by a German photographer at the Gaydon proving ground, a former airfield, near Warwick.

The gap through which the pictures were obtained has been closed with an earth screen. A similar screen has been put up to shield another part of Gaydon where cars would be visible.

BL wants to build a £10m

high-speed test track at Gaydon to accelerate development on new cars for Austin Rover, Jaguar and Land-Rover.

It is seeking planning permission for a 3½-mile, three-lane circuit with steeply banked turns at the end of long straights. Most of the circuit would be below ground level to reduce noise.

A further 174 acres have been bought from a farmer to extend the present 770-acre site which is restricted to endurance and reliability tests. For high-speed work it has had to rent the Motor Industry Research Association's centre near Nuneaton, Warwickshire.

£1,000 turkey

A turkey weighing 7½lb 7oz was sold for £1,000 in aid of charity in London yesterday. It was produced by Dale Turkeys of Ludlow, Shropshire.

Actor had liver disease

John Le Mesurier, the actor, suffered from cirrhosis of the liver, an inquest was told yesterday.

But Dr Alexander Gibson, pathologist, said tests had failed to link the cirrhosis entirely with the actor's history of "moderate to severe alcoholic intake on occasions". Mr Le Mesurier, Sergeant Wilson in the television comedy series *Dad's Army*, died last month, aged 71.

Dr Gibson told the hearing in Broadstairs, Kent, that he would give Mr Le Mesurier, of London Road, Ramsgate, the benefit of the doubt.

Dr Gibson gave the cause of death as gastro-intestinal haemorrhage and cryptogenic cirrhosis, which might be associated with a previous hepatitis. The coroner, Miss Rebecca Cobb, recorded a verdict of death from natural causes.

Blondel moves to West End

The musical *Blondel*, which opened the Old Vic, London, under its new Canadian ownership last month, has turned into a surprise hit. The show had poor reviews but it has proved such a success with audiences that it will transfer indefinitely to the Adelphi on January 20. It will be replaced at the Old Vic by David Pownall's *Masterclass*, starring Timothy West.

Lucky 16,609 for marathon

Letters were posted yesterday to the 16,609 British runners whose applications to take part in the 1984 London Marathon have been accepted. A further 50,000 have been rejected.

The UK runners will be joined on May 13 by nearly 900 recognized athletes and 2,500 overseas competitors. The race director, Mr Christopher Brasher, said there was a record entry.

Airports' £32m

A £32.5m investment programme at Manchester, East Midlands, Bournemouth, Cardiff, Norwich, Southampton, Bristol, Teesside, Cardiff, Luton, Newcastle upon Tyne, and Humberside airports has been approved for 1984-85, Mr David Mitchell, Under-Secretary of State, Transport said yesterday.

Arthritis drug banned

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Health ministers yesterday suspended the licence of the anti-arthritis drug Floxatin, after the deaths of seven patients taking it and reports of serious side-effects, including internal bleeding, in 200 more.

The drug, launched in the United Kingdom in September last year and sold by the Italian-owned Farmitalia Carlo Erba, based in Hertfordshire, is the third anti-arthritis drug to be taken off the UK market in the past 18 months.

An estimated 75,000 patients have been prescribed the drug and about 10,000, mainly elderly, are believed to be taking it now. The drug was due to be discussed by the Committee on Safety of Medicines on Thursday, but the department said that in view of the "urgent concern about safety" ministers decided they had no alternative but to suspend the drug immediately.

The committee has received reports of side-effects in 217 patients, including seven deaths, but it suspects the true rate of serious side-effects is higher. Patients using Floxatin should consult their family doctors, the department said. The suspension of Floxatin comes after the removal from the market last year of Open after the deaths of 76 patients.



Mr Henderson: Objects to defence policy.

Backing for protest poet

Mr Hamish Henderson, the Scottish poet who made public his reasons for refusing the offer of an OBE in the forthcoming New Year's Honours, has received hundreds of messages of support for his action.

Mr Henderson, aged 64, of Edinburgh University's School of Scottish Studies, said that he had decided to break the customary silence surrounding royal patronage after a meeting last week of Scottish Writers Against the Bomb.

In his reply to the offer, he wrote: "Please inform the Prime Minister that in view of the fact that her suicidal defence policies, organized in collusion with the Americans and their crazy, trigger-happy President, are putting at risk the continued survival of the human species on this planet, I cannot possibly see my way to accepting this honour."

Mr Henderson, who served throughout the Italian campaign during the Second World War, said that the only government he could have envisaged accepting such an honour from would have been the Labour Administration of 1945.

A Downing Street official said last night "It is his right to refuse".

Skinheads jailed for attacking soldiers

Four skinheads who fought with Scots Guards bandmen at a summer fête on Carlisle racecourse were jailed yesterday.

Judge Temple, at Carlisle Crown Court, gave them terms of six to fifteen months. He said: "There developed a most ugly and obscene episode. It was an outrage, it was disgraceful and it was an abomination."

He said the guards were attacked by a mob of young men who were "fighting drunk".

Eleven bandmen went to hospital with head wounds and broken bones.

The judge added: "Grown

Doubt over middle schools

By Virginia Makins of The Times Educational Supplement

Middle schools, which were designed to ease children's transition from primary to specialized secondary education, are often an expensive and not very successful way of meeting the needs of the nine to 13 age group, according to a report by school inspectors (HMI).

Only five of 48 schools they visited reached good standards all round. In another third standards were found to be generally satisfactory for most parts of the curriculum.

"In only about one quarter of the schools were children of above average ability given suitably challenging tasks", the report says.

Most schools taught a full and appropriate range of subjects but several were short of specialist facilities, and some had no teachers for music, home studies, religious education and craft design and technology.

The larger schools, with 360 children or more, produced the highest standards. High standards were also significantly linked with good resources - but resources were found to be good in only ten schools, and adequate in only two-thirds.

Schools that started specialist teaching the earliest, with the 10 to 11 year olds, had better results.

The inspectors' criticisms of teaching methods reflect criticisms in their other reports on both primary and secondary teaching. Too much of the work involved listening to teachers or copying facts. Too little was based on first-hand experience.

9-13 Middle Schools, An Illustrative Survey (Stationery Office £4.95).

National straw fire rules urged

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

National controls on straw burning, with no variations in local by-laws and with substantially increased penalties for transgression, are being called for by the National Association of Local Councils.

In a letter to Mr Michael Jopling, Minister of Agriculture, the council, which represents some 7,500 parish, town and community councils in England and Wales, calls for an urgent research and survey programme into other methods of straw disposal.

In the meantime the National Farmers' Union code of practice should be tightened to include a restriction on burning within 100 yards of any road or a neighbour's boundary. Fire brigades should be empowered to levy charges on landowners responsible for fires.

However, the council concedes that many of its members doubt the effectiveness of any control measures and feel that the only solution is a total ban. Despite the NFU's public protests to such a ban.

At the Royal Smithfield Show last week there was considerable interest in a number of new machines for chopping straw into small enough pieces to be incorporated into the soil without inhibiting the new crop.

Husband admits killing

Peter Reyn-Bardt told Chester Crown Court yesterday that he killed his wife more than 20 years ago during an argument over money.

Reyn-Bardt, a former British Overseas Airways Corporation official, who denies murdering his wife Malika, said he had dismembered her body with an axe at the cottage he shared with a homosexual friend.

The prosecution has claimed that Mr Reyn-Bardt, aged 57, of Crompton Court, Knightsbridge, west London, confessed to killing the woman after the discovery of a human skull in May.

He allegedly told detectives that he strangled her at Heathfield Cottage in Wilmshurst, Cheshire, and cut her with an axe before burying the remains. The court has been told that Mrs Reyn-Bardt was last seen alive in October, 1960, and that she had threatened to expose her husband's homosexuality and disgrace him.

Peter Goodwright, the impressionist, bought the cottage only months after the alleged killing, the court was told. Mr Goodwright said in a statement that his gardening was limited to mowing the lawn and weeding the beds, but in the two-and-a-half years he spent in the cottage he did not see any bones of any description. The trial continues today.

Hitler liked me, Mosley told interrogator

By Peter Hennessy and David Walker

Adolf Hitler was a charming if emotional man with a "great sense of humour", some one who could not resist a good party, according to the affidavit of the British fascist leader Sir Oswald Mosley in 1940.

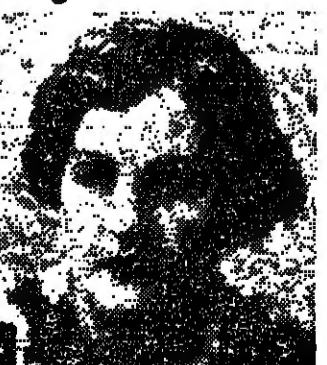
Questioned after his imprisonment under the Defence of the Realm Act about his links with Germany, Mosley boasted that Hitler had liked him, had admired his wife Diana, and had been entranced by Diana's sister, Unity Mitford, an early member of the British Union of Fascists.

The hitherto secret transcript of Mosley's interrogation, kept back by the Home Office beyond the normal 30-year period because of its reliance on MOS's testimony, reveals Mosley's private opinions of both the continental dictators, Hitler and Mussolini.

Hitler was "a very emotional person", between the lines Mosley speculates about his sexuality. On the one hand he was attracted to Unity and the relationship was "that of a man



Mussolini and Unity Mitford: The father of fascism and an eager follower.



The father of fascism and an eager follower.

to a child. He is always laughing and making jokes."

On the other hand, he admired strong women such as Lady Mosley and Frau Goebbels. "He would treat Unity Mitford as an English girl... he would talk to my wife seriously as a more or less grown-up person and as an English woman."

Mussolini, by contrast, was every inch the public man with a huge personality. Whenever one went to Rome one was liable - it caused me immense

embarrassment - to be drawn out in public.

"On the first visit, they were having a big march and Mussolini suddenly sent me a message: 'Would I stand in the tribune instead of him?'"

That was a ruse, Mosley told his questioner, Norman Birkett, KC. "I was photographed with him in the tribune and I have been taunted about it ever since all over the world."

But in addition to the domestic vignettes, Birkett, a skilful interrogator, drew from

Mosley a picture of what would happen in Britain if a fascist government took power. Automatically, Mosley said, "party politics fade out... so that the microbe of party politics cannot live". The opposition would have no power.

"One might say it was based on Caesarism, certainly Bonapartism."

Throughout his questioning Mosley maintained that the trade marks of the British Union of Fascists, its shirts and slogans, all derived from British rather than foreign models. They had borrowed the idea of big marches from the Durham miners' spotlights on the leader from the Salvation Army; and the use of the "hail" salute from the Elizabethans.

One memorandum shows the security service closely monitoring one of Mosley's former secretaries and another discloses that M15 bugged his prison cell. The advisory committee chaired by Norman Birkett was told in advance how Mosley would try to defend himself. The information "was derived from a very secret and delicate source".

Equipment not available

Satellite TV scheme is in disarray

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

The Government's plans for beaming television programmes directly into homes via a satellite are in disarray. Today the companies due to build the satellite will be seeing Department of Trade and Industry ministers in the hope of rescuing the project.

The project, envisaged towards the end of the last decade, was to have had a high-powered satellite beaming five channels directly into the home by 1986 via a roof-mounted dish-aerial. Last year, the BBC agreed to take two of the channels, using a satellite to be built by a consortium of British Aerospace, GEC-Marconi, and British Telecom.

Two things, however, have happened to throw those plans into confusion.

First, the BBC in the last six months has begun to have doubts. There has been increasing concern about whether sufficient viewers would subscribe to enable the BBC to recoup construction costs of £170m plus the £180m it will cost to run the service over the satellite's seven-year life.

The doubts were increased when the Government of the Irish Republic announced last month that its own broadcasting satellite, which will beam programmes into British homes, would be operating in 1987.

Second, one of the leading British consumer electronics manufacturers, Thorne-EMI, told the Government that equipment to receive the programmes would not be available in sufficient quantity and at the right price until 13 months after the BBC satellite launch.

To add to that, the Independent Broadcasting Authority was told in September that commercial television companies could also broadcast by satellite from 1987. Unlike the BBC, however, they would not

be tied to using a British-built satellite. They could, that is, shop around for the best deal.

Having considered matter for several months, the BBC is now terrified of the consequences of taking the wrong decision. On the one hand, going ahead amid uncertainty could invite bankruptcy; on the other, it could find itself leading the commercial companies in a new generation of broadcasting.

On Monday this week the BBC's chairman, Mr Stuart Young, and the Director-General, Mr Alisdair Milne, told Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, of their worries. Tomorrow the BBC is expected to make its final decision at a board meeting. Much will depend on whether Mr Brittan offered government help or concessions.

Finally, the wild card in the pack is the advent of a different kind of satellite broadcasting that uses a cheaper satellite of much lower power to send programmes not directly into homes but to cable television operators. They would then redistribute programmes on their networks. Cable operators would be obliged to carry all satellite channels, including the BBC's but the corporation has little idea so far what charges the cable operators would levy.

One possible way out of the dilemmas being canvassed in the industry is to have just one satellite system operated jointly by the BBC, IBA, and possibly the Irish operators.

Computer rejected

The Independent Television Companies Association has rejected the idea of launching its own microcomputer in competition with the BBC's. The endorsement of such a product would have been a breach of the Broadcasting Act and could have robbed the network of competitive advertising.

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PARLIAMENT December 13 1983

Government still keeping out of newspaper row

NGA DISPUTE

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, reaffirmed in the Commons that the Government would not intervene in the dispute between the Messenger Group and the National Graphical Association and that it upheld the right of the individual to reject a closed shop. She rejected a request by Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, that the Government should set up a committee of inquiry. When Mrs Thatcher asked him to condemn the NGA for contravening the law, Mr Kinnock retorted that he had no intention of condoning breaches of the law but also no intention of being a 'dill sergeant' to divisive and ruinous Tory legislation.

In the exchanges on the dispute Mr Timothy Egan (Enfield North, C) asked: Does not the news that the NGA is to picket again at Warrington challenge the whole basis of our democratic values? Surely all of us in this House have a right and duty to protect employees' decisions whether or not to join a closed shop? If we do not do this, we are going to see democracy undermined.

Mrs Thatcher: I am not quite certain whether the NGA have decided to picket again, but I wholly agree that the employees at the Warrington Messenger Group have exercised their right by ballot to reject a closed shop.

They must be protected in the exercise of that right and this dispute is about the NGA attempting to intimidate them nevertheless to join a closed shop. It is wrong. The law must be seen to protect these employees.

Mr Kinnock: Would she welcome the decision of the NGA to suspend their strike and use the pause it has made available to extend its powers in order to bring the various parties together to produce a settlement? For instance would she ask the Government to convene a committee of inquiry?

Mrs Thatcher: I utterly condemn it

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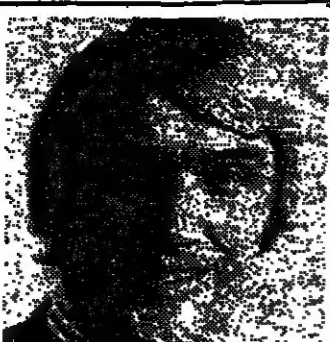
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Mackay: Mr Murray's sensible advice

and uphold their right to reject a closed shop.

Mr Andrew Mackay (East Berkshire, C): There is to be more picketing in Warrington tomorrow (Wednesday) despite Mr Len Murray's sensible advice. It is an act of gross intimidation of innocent workers that Mr Colin Barnett of the North-West Region of the TUC has promised that tomorrow's demonstration will be the largest Warrington has ever seen.

Mrs Thatcher: I understand that there is to be a demonstration tomorrow. I understand that it will be well away from the works. There is a right of peaceful demonstration. Mr Colin Barnett (Hammersmith, Lab): Many of my constituents have had no post for nearly two weeks. (Conservative laughter) They are deprived of serious and important letters concerning business and hospital appointments, very largely because the Post Office has refused arbitration from Aca.

Is Mrs Thatcher going to continue to underplay the role of Aca so that she can continue her war against the trade unions?

Mrs Thatcher: There is a recognised procedure for conciliation. It is essential that the procedure be followed and the Government will not intervene.

Mr Timothy Yee (South Suffolk, C): The action of the TUC in discouraging the NGA from proceeding with its strike is most welcome and shows a concern for NGA members which the NGA has not shown, and a respect for the law. In that respect, the TUC General Secretary set an example which Mr Kinnock could well emulate.

Mrs Thatcher: I agree. The TUC believes in upholding the law. It is right in a democracy.

Mrs Thatcher: I am not quite certain whether the NGA have decided to picket again, but I wholly agree that the employees at the Warrington Messenger Group have exercised their right by ballot to reject a closed shop.

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INDUSTRY

Legislation is to be introduced as soon as possible to provide for a new structure for regional industrial incentives involving major changes to the regional development grants scheme, Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said in a statement in the Commons.

He said that he had today published a White Paper on regional industrial development and that the department would soon publish a factual background paper on the effectiveness of regional policy and other regional issues.

He said: The Government remains firmly committed to an effective regional policy. Although the economic case for regional industrial policy today is not clear cut, and the economic costs of such policies must be set against the benefits, there remains a social case for regional industrial policy to reduce regional imbalances in employment opportunities.

The Government believes that there is scope to increase the effectiveness of regional policy and to achieve better value for money in the regions with less adverse effects on the economy as a whole.

The White Paper sets out a new structure for regional industrial incentives involving major changes to the regional development grants scheme.

At present regional development grants over-concentrate on capital-intensive projects and a manufacturing industries.

In future we propose that RDGs should be aimed more precisely at job creation. The new RDG scheme will be widened in scope to cover parts of the service sector in addition to manufacturing.

However, RDGs will in future be payable only towards projects which provide or modernize capacity and simple replacement investment will not qualify for RDG.

Grant will be payable as a proportion of capital expenditure, or as an amount for each new job created by a project, whichever is the more advantageous to the investor, but where grant is paid in respect of capital expenditure, it will be limited by a cost-per-job ceiling.

For the sake of simplicity, small firms will be exempt from this limit. These changes shift the payment of automatic grant assistance to projects which create jobs.

In addition, the importance of selective assistance relative to RDGs will be increased, and relocation projects which offer no net increase in jobs will not normally be eligible for regional selective assistance.

These changes are great improvements to the automatic and predictable nature of the RDG scheme. Therefore, grant will continue to be paid at standard rates and by reference to published criteria.

To avoid disruption or uncer-

ainty arising from these changes there will be a 12 month transition period from the introduction of the scheme before it takes full effect.

For projects which have already been offered selective assistance, RDGs will continue to be paid under the old rules, not the new.

The old rules, not the new, will apply for projects for which application has already been made, and the past year's year's RDGs provided that an offer is made before changes to the legislation are brought into effect.

The regional investment role of the British Technology Group, which does not relate to its primary task of encouraging the transfer of technology, will be discontinued.

The White Paper invites views on a number of issues.

In respect of grant, which activities should qualify for RDG? What rates of grant should be paid, and what the balance should be between automatic and selective assistance.

On the assisted area map, views are invited on both the criteria for designation and on map coverage.

The Government also welcomes views on whether special measures should be taken in the assisted areas to encourage innovation and new investment.

I would welcome written submissions before the end of May 1984, in order that they may be considered before decisions are reached.

Consultation has its price. A number of important decisions about regional policy will remain to be taken until after the consultation period.

In particular it is not possible now to announce the future geographical coverage of regional assistance or the amount of future regional expenditure.

My hope is that when published, will be based upon more up-to-date information concerning travel-to-work areas now becoming available from the census returns.

Once the consultation process is complete and the remaining decisions are taken, the Government proposes to lay the necessary orders, implementing all the changes simultaneously in autumn, 1984.

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on trade and industry (Barnet, Green and Stoney, Lab): There can be no solution to the problem of regional unemployment and regional decline unless and until there is a major change in Government national economic policy. Within the framework of a changed national economic policy the case today for a strong regional policy is greater than its ever been.

Can he, therefore, assure us that, whatever changes emerge from the consultations and consultations of which he is about to embark, the level of regional assistance will not be reduced?

We will consider carefully what he says in his statement and in the White Paper about changes in RDG.

but it really is odd that the factual background paper on the effectiveness of regional policy and other regional issues to which he referred at the beginning of his statement is not available now.

What considerations and what value does the Secretary of State place upon regional development agencies of the kind Scotland and Wales have most successfully used in the past few years? Are there any proposals to extend these to regions in England where there is undoubtedly a great need where unemployment figures are at a similar level as they are in Wales and Scotland?

What part does he envisage for local government generally in the regional development and, in particular, for local government enterprise boards?

What thought has he given to the regional pattern of public expenditure on roads, rail, water supply and the whole range of public infrastructure, which has a major impact on the prosperity of the different regions?

Mr Tebbit: He was, of course, entitled to imply that the best form of aid for the regional economies is a healthy economy overall and that is precisely why we intend the new regional policy will not only be more effective than which we have been using up to date, but also that it will be operated at a lower cost in order to help the progress of the economy as a whole.

I hope that the Government will be available shortly. It would hardly have been possible to publish the whole of the material which the Government has been considering over the past few months.

We do not intend to introduce agencies on the Scottish or Welsh model into England.

The prime local government concern is to keep down their rate demands upon businesses and stop taxing businesses out of existence.

Mr William Clark (Croydon South, C): I am delighted that there is an emphasis on service industries, but they are more labour-intensive than manufacturing industry. Would he impress upon the Chancellor that whereas we give 100 per cent grants to service industries, the manufacturing industry that is not given to service industries?

Mr Tebbit: It is wrong that we should discriminate in our regional economic policies against the service industries. No all service industries would qualify for regional grants. There would be a singularly little point, for example, in subsidising new green grocers to come into an area where there was already an adequate supply of green grocers.

On the other hand there would be good reason to assist through regional policy the setting up, for example, of software industry houses as a service industry in the assisted areas.

Transport Executive would assume its new name, London Regional Transport, and its new identity while retaining, at least initially, its physical manifestation.

One of the most important long-term reasons for the Bill was the need for closer cooperation between London's bus and Underground services on the one hand and British Rail services in the London region on the other.

It was in the interests of the public that in future the two major operators in London would be subject to compatible policy and financial frameworks.

He intended to set up a liaison committee consisting of the two bodies under his chairmanship. These new liaison arrangements would secure the changes everybody wanted to see. If they did not, the Bill contained further important powers that could be activated at any time up to eight years from the Bill's enactment.

The main bus company would be encouraged to form smaller subsidiaries to take over the decentralisation of their bus operations already started by LRT.

LRT would be under an obligation to involve independent suppliers in the provision of public transport and other services wherever this made economic sense.

New licensing arrangements would enable for the first time independent operators to be provided in London through licences granted by the Metropolitan Traffic Commissioners. In this way (he said) he shall be seeking to loosen the interests of healthy competition from the monopolistic position that London Transport has held since 1933.

A contribution from the ratepayers (he continued) has in fairness to be secured. I will be accountable to the House for the amount levied. There would be a separately identifiable item on the ratepayer's rate bill. Ratepayers were paying more now than they would pay in future.

Mr Ridley: Huge rise in total subsidy bill

The need was for LRT to be allowed freedom to develop its affairs with a minimum of political interference and control, but within clearly stated financial and policy objectives. LT was important in a national context, thus the strategic control and control of the financial support should come from central Government. This was the Bill's starting point.

LT would be kept as it was but would be changed with having a role from the GLC to the Government. The change would occur on a day appointed by him as soon as possible after the enactment of the Bill. At the same time, the London

The Chancellor will listen carefully to everything he says



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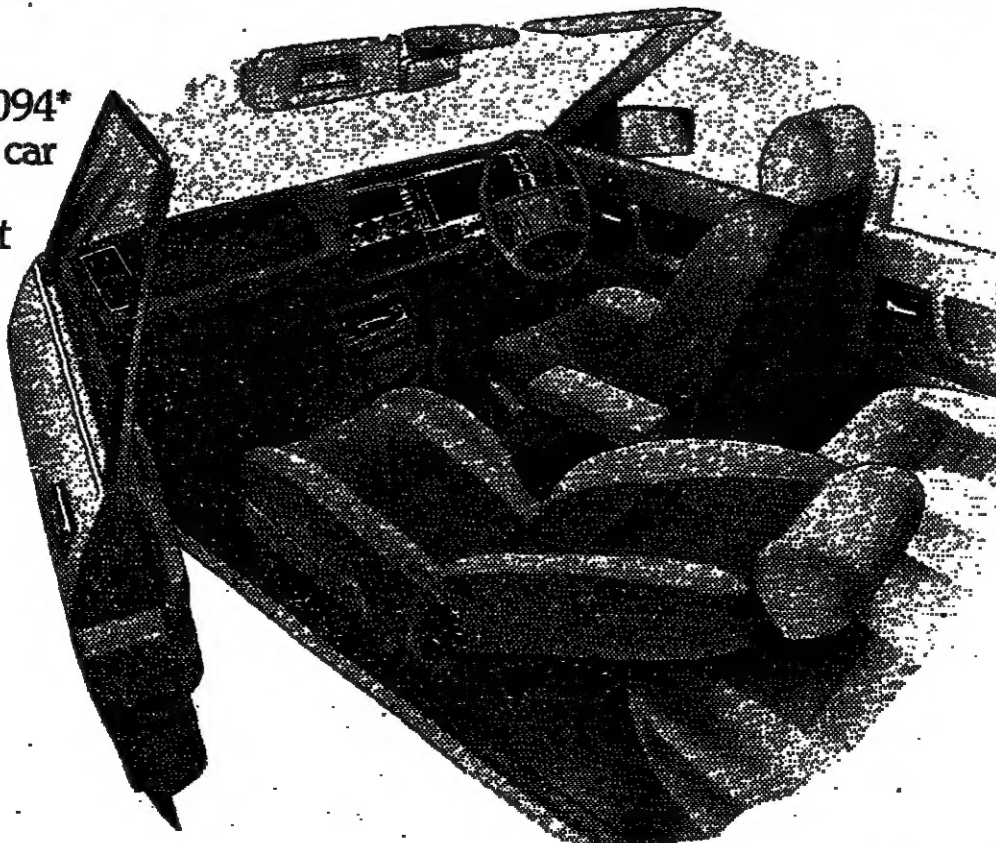
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Palestinians and Arab nationals barred from leaving

Kuwait cracks down after wave of bombs

Kuwait (Reuters, AFP) - Kuwait strengthened its internal security yesterday after the series of bomb blasts which killed at least four people and injured more than 60.

Key government buildings were under heavy guard and there was increased protection around the American, French, British, and Italian embassies, the four countries providing troops for the multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon. Road blocks were set up outside the capital.

The Kuwaiti Parliament condemned the bombings on Monday as criminal. During the 90-minute wave of attacks, the US and French embassies, the Kuwaiti government office, the airport, and a big industrial complex were all hit.

Palestinians, who form nearly a quarter of Kuwait's population, and nationals of several Middle East countries have been barred temporarily from leaving the country.

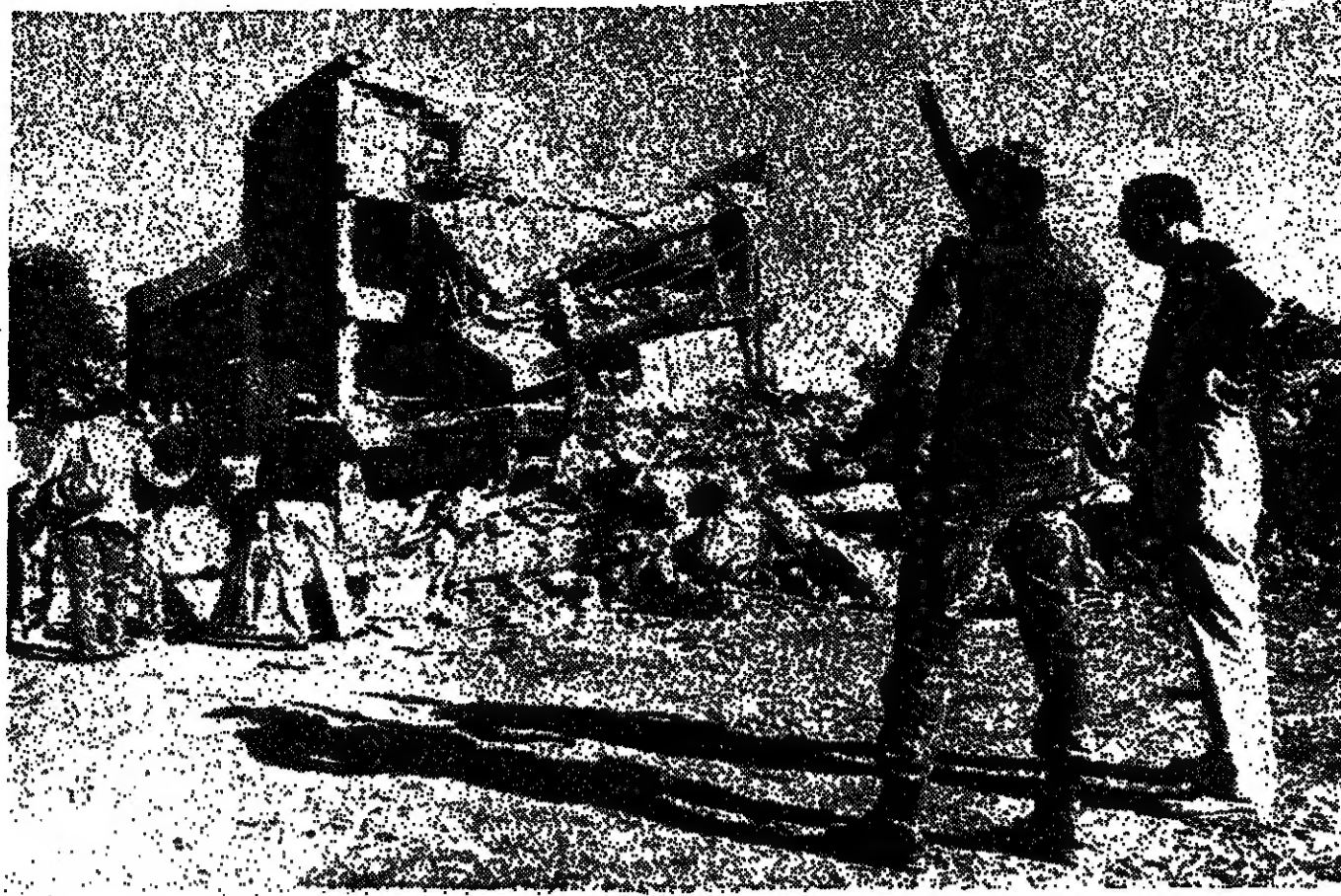
Several suspects have been arrested. Sources said police had detained an employee of a Kuwaiti public company who owned the lorry used in the attack on the US embassy as well as several of the booby-trapped cars used against other targets.

An Interior Ministry official said further arrests could be expected.

The US embassy, where three people died and more than 30 were injured, was closed for business yesterday. Marines in full combat gear and flak jackets were seen on guard inside the compound.

Mr David Good, a spokesman for the embassy, said three local employees were killed when a lorry loaded with gas cylinders and explosives smashed through the metal main gate, swerved to the left into a car park and devastated the three-storey administration building.

Mr Good said witnesses had reported that there had been one man in the suicide lorry, senior government official said.



On alert: A Marine standing guard outside the US embassy in Kuwait after the fatal bomb blast

yesterday that the driver, whose nationality was not known, had died in the explosion though earlier reports said he had survived.

Mr Good, who was in his office when the blast occurred, said: "I was typing out a cable and heard not a very loud thump, which I surmised afterwards was the truck hitting the gate."

"This was followed about two seconds later by a tremendous sharp deafening bang and a kind of enveloping pressure which went all around my body and throughout the room."

"Broken glass came flying in

through my window and hit the opposite wall. Fortunately I was sitting just beneath the window which was about 5ft above my head. The glass went straight across and hit the other wall and I only had some glass and some debris and dust falling on my head."

A Muslim extremist group, Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the attacks. Islamic Jihad also claimed responsibility for the recent attacks on the US Embassy and American and French military units in Beirut which killed more than 360 people.

The Kuwait bombings have

shocked other Gulf states, which are already jittery over the course of the three-year war between Iran and Iraq.

● LISBON If the terrorists attacked the American and French embassies and other installations in Kuwait could be taken in retaliation, Mr George Schultz, the American Secretary of State, said in Lisbon yesterday (Martha de la Cal writes).

Mr Schultz said that terrorism was a serious international problem and that steps did need to be taken, but he did not want to comment on what action

might be taken by the United States.

What happened in Kuwait was "a great tragedy", he said adding that the bomb attacks were "aimed at the United States, France the Government of Kuwait and at the general concept of law and order".

● DAMASCUS: Thousands of Syrians joined a government-sponsored rally against the United States and Israel yesterday but the authorities barred the marchers from American and Israeli embassies.

Syrian security guards armed with assault rifles closed roads leading to the two embassies.

Scottish au pair in court clash with Mauritian governess

From Peter Nichols, Livorno

Witchcraft and the paranormal took a back seat at the trial here yesterday of the Scottish au pair girl Carol Compton.

Miss Compton, aged 21, has been held in prison awaiting trial since August, 1982, on charges of being responsible for five fires of which one was intended to kill a three-year-old child in her care.

Yesterday she took part in a dramatic confrontation with Miss Nicole Annaswamy, a striking woman from Mauritius who was employed in the same household as Miss Compton in July, 1982, in the northern Italian town of Ortesel.

Miss Annaswamy, elegantly dressed in red leather trousers, high heeled boots, a leather jacket and silk shawl gave an account of the first five fires. It conflicted on several points with Miss Compton's versions.

Miss Annaswamy spoke in fairly fluent Italian. Her remarks were translated for Miss Compton who dismissed them with the angry comment: "Everything, almost everything is lies."

Miss Annaswamy, according to her testimony, was returning from the centre of Ortesel on July 11, 1982, to the house and saw smoke coming from a bedroom window while Miss Compton was outside with the child.

Miss Compton has claimed that all three were together when the fire first started and that Miss Annaswamy had returned home because she wanted to see a World Cup match on television.

Miss Annaswamy denied interest in the match and added that when Signor Mario Ricci, the child's grandfather went to the door of his bedroom Miss Compton said: "Don't open". He did and found a fire which

has started on his bed.

This fire damaged the house and the Ricci family moved with Miss Compton to a flat close by. Two days later a small fire occurred in a rubbish bin in the kitchen. After another two days a more serious fire damaged another bedroom and Miss Compton was sent back to Rome. No charges were brought against her.

She found work with another family and went with them to Elba. The day after they arrived a fire broke out on a bed. Two days later another fire occurred, this time in the bedroom of the three-year-old girl who was in Carol Compton's charge. For this last fire she was accused of attempted murder. She denies all the charges.

Miss Compton yesterday could be seen reacting with some irritation as her first employer, Signora Emanuela Ricci, who had taken her to Ortesel, told the court: "I was very disappointed in this girl." (She spoke the word "disappointed" in English presumably to get her point straight home to the accused.)

"I discovered letters which talked badly of me and my child. She was a hypocrite. I do not want to hurt the girl with my testimony."

Her evidence nevertheless went a long way towards removing the paranormal from the trial. In earlier testimony she had said that her maid in Rome spoke of a vase that had inexplicably fallen to the floor in Carol's presence as well as a picture of the Madonna, but the objects could, she said yesterday, have been knocked down quite naturally.

The hearing continues today. The verdict is expected by the end of the week.

Romanians in daring flight to West

Vienna - Twenty Romanians were seeking political asylum in Austria after a daring escape at the weekend which fooled Romanian, Hungarian and Austrian border guards (Richard Bassett writes).

The Romanians, including six children, hid themselves under boxes of ball bearings in a large container lorry and remained undetected for 48 hours in freezing temperatures until they reached Vienna late on Saturday.

A somewhat embarrassed spokesman for the Austrian police announced their presence yesterday saying that their arrival had been kept a secret while a full inquiry was launched into how they had not been discovered at the Austrian frontier.

The Romanians exhausted after their two days of concealment have now been transferred to the Traiskirchen refugee camp south of Vienna.

Iran caps wells to save Gulf

Gland, Switzerland (AP) - Iran has capped all but six of its offshore oil wells to prevent damage from Iraqi missiles, the World Wildlife Fund said here, quoting unnamed industry sources. The wells would need redrilling to get back into production once the war ended.

Iran has capped the wells, 75 in the Nowruz field and all those in the Ardesheer near by, to avoid further oil spillage into the Gulf if missiles hit them, the fund said.

Comoros plot

Perth (AFP) - Three Australians allegedly involved in a plot to stage a commando-style raid to overthrow the Government of Comoros - Walter John Pilgrim, 54, Edward Arthur Greengrove, 42, and Frederick John Patrick, 46, all of Armadale, Western Australia - were sent for trial by magistrates here.

Off the air

Moscow (AFP) - Vladimir Danchev, the Soviet radio commentator dismissed in May after several times referring to the "Soviet occupation" of Afghanistan and to the mujahidin's "struggle against the Soviet invader" is back at work at Radio Moscow, according to reliable Soviet sources. But he is not broadcasting.

Rio's loss

Rio de Janeiro (AFP) - Most of Rio's magnificent white sand beaches are so badly hit by pollution that they can no longer be used for swimming or sunbathing. Last year the Botafogo and Flamengo beaches were ruled unfit. Sewage has now drifted on to the Leblon and Ipanema.

Cabbage Patch

San Francisco (AFP) - Mr Martin Brandon, who was adopted as a child, filed a \$100m action against the manufacturers of "cabbage patch" dolls, claiming they have an extremely negative effect on adopted children who wonder if they too were born in cabbage patches.

Birthday killer

Bonn - The Hamburg public prosecutor has charged 72-year-old Arnold Strippel, a former SS lieutenant, with hanging 40 Jews on Hitler's birthday 38 years ago. Twenty were children.

On your bike

Peking (Reuters) - Wang Qingshun, 27-year-old Peking economics graduate assigned to work in Tibet, cycled there, all 6,200 miles of it, the New China news agency reported. It took him 82 days.

Inside story

Jakarta (Reuters) - Fishermen at Labuan Lombok in eastern Indonesia, slicing up a 9ft shark they had netted, discovered a human skeleton inside.

Safety of Britons will be pressed on Gemayel

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher will be putting President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon under pressure to provide evidence of progress towards political reconciliation in his divided country when they meet in Downing Street today.

The Government is mindful of growing concern about the safety of the 100 or so troops who make up Britain's contribution to the multinational peacekeeping force in Beirut.

The call for an imminent withdrawal of the contingent is far from irresistible and observers believe that the force, now consisting of troops from the 16th Airborne, is less likely than its French and American counterparts to be targeted by Islamic terrorists.

But the Prime Minister and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, who will hold talks with the Lebanese President, want to make it clear that the British contingent is not meant to remain for ever.

President Gemayel who will also see the Queen during his

48-hour stay, arrived last night amid tight security.

He comes at the Government's invitation at a crucial point in the history of his country - whose warring factions mandated his after last month's reconciliation talks in Geneva - to tour Western capitals in an attempt to secure the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon.

But he has also said that he wants to buy British aircraft to supplement the eight elderly Hunters still flying with the Lebanese Air Force.

The multinational force is needed to prop up the authority of the Beirut Government until its own emergent forces are strong enough to enforce law and order.

But growing scepticism on the Labour benches over the role and usefulness of the force - and the dangers to which it is exposed - lies behind meetings which President Gemayel will also have with Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, and Mr Denis Healey, shadow Foreign Secretary.

Light across the Jordan river

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Amid the current mood of pessimism gripping the Middle East, there have been a number so small but significant pointers recently towards a possible avenue for future Israeli-Arab dialogue.

The latest is a strong indication that the Government of Mr Yitzhak Shamir may agree to permit any moderate West Bank Palestinians appointed next year to the Jordanian National Assembly to cross the Allenby bridge to take their seats in Amman.

Although no Cabinet decision has yet been taken, senior advisers to Mr Shamir are sympathetic to the idea of permitting pro-Jordanian West Bankers to attend the Parliament if and when the summons was issued from Amman.

Copies of pro-Jordanian petitions are also being circulated in moderate Arab circles in the main cities. At a later stage they will be circulated among the general public for signature after they have received the formal approval of the Jordanian authorities.

Other pointers have been the unprecedented statements of

Palestinians. "It also makes a mockery out of the EEC's Venice Declaration", he added.

When recalled, the Parliament can nominate new West Bank delegates to replace those who died since it last sat before the 1967 war. There is speculation that such a delegation could form the nucleus of a future Palestinian state which would then be in a position to join talks with Israel alongside King Hussein.

Already the King's announcement has caused a flurry of behind-the-scenes activity in the West Bank, including consultations among pro-Jordanian elements as to whom would be endorsed for the Parliament if and when the summons was issued from Amman.

Other pointers have been the unprecedented statements of

condemnation of last week's PLO bus bomb in Jerusalem issued by five radical Palestinian leaders from the West Bank and separately, by prominent Arabs from the occupied Gaza Strip.

The West Bank statement was signed, among others, by two deposed mayors previously closely associated with the PLO, Mr Karim Khalaf of Ramallah and Mr Mustapha Natche of Hebron. "Violence against civilians, carried out by either side, is counterproductive to a just solution to the Israeli-Palestinian problem", it concluded.

The statement was hailed by Mr Shamir as "a positive trend" and by the opposition Labour Party as a sign of a possible new readiness on behalf of the West Bank Arabs for coexistence with Israel. Less radical leaders such as Mr Elias Frej, the elected mayor of Bethlehem have been pressing this point.

Less well publicized was a similar condemnation by Gaza leaders including the Mayor of Khan Younis, one of the largest towns under occupation there and leaders of several Palestinian refugee camps.

Arms race futile, say scientists

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Soviet block and Western scientists meeting together at the Pugwash Conference here declared yesterday that both sides already had more than enough nuclear weapons to serve any valid purpose.

"The key fact is that nuclear weapons have no useful military function other than to deter others from using theirs, and for this purpose both sides already possess more than enough," the committee's statement said. "It follows from this that pursuit of numerical parity in every sub-category of nuclear weaponry - a pursuit which negotiations often have encouraged and perpetuated - is neither necessary nor desirable."

The committee of about 40 scientists - eight from the Soviet block and including a Russian General on active service - regarded the recently adjourned SALT negotiations on strategic missiles as having collapsed as completely as the INF talks.

It described tension between the superpowers as "probably unequalled since the Cuban missile crisis".



Maternal vote: Herr Brandt and Fraulein Seebacher, who married last Friday photographed voting together at the West German general election last June

Brandt remarries in secret

From Our Correspondent, Bonn

Herr Willy Brandt, the former West German Chancellor, who will be 70 on Sunday, has secretly married his 37-year-old former assistant, it was disclosed yesterday.

The Social Democrat chairman who was forced to resign as Chancellor in 1974 over a scandal, married Fraulein Brigitte Seebacher in an evening civil ceremony in the town hall of Unkel, a small wine town on the Rhine near Bonn, last Friday.

The after-hours ceremony was performed by the conservative Christian Democrat mayor, Herr Hans Hafene, who agreed to the unusual timing at Herr Brandt's express request "to preserve secrecy at least over the weekend". It was the former Chancellor's third marriage.

The newlyweds have lived together in Unkel since early 1979 when Herr Brandt and his second Norwegian wife, Rutt, separated after 31 years of marriage.

Democracy plea to Chile by 15-nation rally

Santiago (Reuters) - Christian Democratic leaders from 15 countries sponsored a rally here and called on Chile military rulers to move towards democracy.

Señor Andrés Zaldívar, the Chilean politician who recently returned from exile and who is president of the Christian Democratic International, told the meeting of 5,000 people sponsored by CDDI that military governments in Latin America had been uniformly disastrous.

"At this moment, Argentina is emerging into democracy and we salute it with joy. Tomorrow, it will be Uruguay and Brazil and why not Chile?", Señor Zaldívar said.

Scholar Zaldívar said.

Recriminations over failed Athens summit

Britain condemned for mean-mindedness

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

Britain was slated for mean-mindedness and lack of vision yesterday when the European Parliament reviewed the failure of the Athens summit to reach any decisions on essential reforms for the EEC.

While 3,000 farmers outside the building demonstrated angrily about failures of the common agricultural policy, Mr Andreas Papanastasiou, the Green Prime Minister, who presided at the summit and Mr Gaston Thorn, the Commission President, gave their views to Euro-MPs about why there had been failure.

While neither actually named Britain, it was perfectly obvious from their references that Mrs Margaret Thatcher's hard line at the summit was seen as a main reason.

Mr Thorn promised that he meant to stop the "flagrant violation" of Community rules, which had led the Council of

Ministers to put forward its own proposals. The Commission, he said, would restrict the Council to its proper role of decision taking. He meant to get answers from it to all the technical agricultural questions which had been sidestepped at Athens.

At the same time Mr Thorn sought to reduce the scale of the budget problem to manageable proportions. To have no solution for Europe and to measure nearly the means for its future development is without any doubt the surest method to make the European Council fail," he said.

"For in the end, what is it all about? The Community budget is less than 1 per cent of the total gross domestic product of Europe. The budgetary imbalances to correct relate to amount which do not exceed a fraction of a per cent for the countries which are complaining about them."

Jopling detects change of mood on farm prices

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

There is no money available for any general increase in EEC farm prices next year, Mr Paul Dalsager, the Agriculture Commissioner, told ministers in Brussels yesterday. They were preparing for the annual farm price fixing, aware that Commission proposals could be out before Christmas.

He said that failure at the Athens summit to agree on a new system of farm prices, a new tax on oil and fats worth of £300m, meant that the Community faced a shortfall of about £1,000m next year.

He warned that the Commission had virtually no means of making the savings. It could legally continue its present freeze on some advances, it could suspend a number of export restitutions and premiums, and it could stop buying some produce. But the effect of these measures, he said, could even give rise to

higher costs as they would add to existing surpluses. Mr Michael Jopling, the British minister, said afterwards that nobody wanted to rush into decisions on new measures yet. But he detected a change in the mood of the farm ministers, who have a reputation for always wanting to spend more.

"I detect a growing awareness that the Community is in a crunch situation, and a growing realization that there are no short cuts or easy ways to buy ourselves out of it. There is a concentration of minds."

● New Zealand butter: The agriculture ministers agreed on a two-month interim deal to allow Britain to import 13,623 tonnes of New Zealand butter in January and February. This is one-sixth of the 83,000 tonnes quota which the Commission has proposed should be the limit on New Zealand imports next year.

Managua rejects talks with rebels but makes peace offering

Managua (NYT) - Señor Humberto Ortega Sandoval, the Defence Minister, says Sandinista forces defeated a guerrilla campaign last month aimed at seizing a part of Nicaraguan territory and setting up a provisional government there.

In an interview here, Señor Ortega rejected recent suggestions that his Government negotiate with leaders of the guerrilla force, but he said the Sandinistas were seeking the "reconciliation of the great Nicaraguan family" through talks with the domestic opposition.

He also said Nicaragua wanted to reach an understanding for coexistence with Washington.

"The United States should accept us as we are and not try to impose conditions," Señor Ortega said. "In this relationship, we will respect the reality represented by the United States."

Señor Ortega, aged 36, is a senior member of the nine-man Sandinista national directorate that holds power in Nicaragua. He portrayed rebel bands as scattered and broken up but predicted they would start a new wave of attacks after the winter time to regroup in Costa Rica and especially in Honduras.

He said the appearance of a rebel air force had introduced a new element into the hostilities. Its use had been curtailed recently. Four of the ancient rebel planes had been shot down and use of the planes was embarrassing to the US "because it made the involvement of the CIA so obvious".

Guerrillas fighting to overthrow the Sandinistas have received millions in covert aid from the US. According to Señor Ortega, anti-government rebels based in Honduras, including groups of disaffected Miskito Indians, planned to seize an area near the Atlantic coast town of Puerto Cabezas last month in coordination with other rebel detachments based near the Costa Rican border.

"They were unable to achieve their goal because of our defensive strength, in this case the strength of the territory militia, which held off the aggressors in many encounters in that part of the country," Señor Ortega said.

Goethe image under attack

From Michael Binyon Bonn

When the Colombo branch of the Goethe Institute, West Germany's equivalent of the British Council, planned a showing of a homosexual film recently, the German Ambassador stepped in and vetoed the performance.

Wolfgang Petersen's television film of a love affair between two men was one of nine films sent out by the institute's Munich headquarters for use in promoting German culture in South-East Asia, but the Sri Lanka censor forbade its public showing.

In normal circumstances the ambassador's veto would have raised few questions: according to the 1976 agreement between the Goethe Institute and the Foreign Ministry, Bonn's diplomats have the final say over anything with political implications. The showing of a censored film might fall into that category.

But at the moment the Institute's defenders are on their guard against any further encroachments on their hard-won independence. For in recent months conservative politicians, especially in Bavaria, have mounted a concerted attack on the respected quasi-independent cultural organisation, accusing it of portraying an unflattering image of West Germany and not responding to the changed political climate.

The dispute came to a head last month during Chancellor Helmut Kohl's visit to Japan. While opening one of the institute's new branches in Kyoto, he enunciated in a speech the liberal principles on which it would operate. It was to represent the federal republic as it really was: a free democracy based on the free exchange of ideas and opinions.

The Kyoto branch would represent both Germany's past and present, the views of the opposition as well as of the Government.

These promises were short-lived, however. A journalist showed the Chancellor a folder produced by the new institute which included among 46 video cassettes on aspects of Germany, four on the subjects of plutonium, the Nuremberg trials, the Green MP General Gert Bastian, and the controversial new runway at Frankfurt airport.

Dr Kohl was incensed and let journalists accompanying him know of his anger. Accusations began appearing in the organ of the right-wing Christian Social Union that the Goethe Institute was engaged in "international cultural subversive activity".

The conservative *Die Welt* made charges of "atrocious one-sidedness".

Proposals have been put forward for a cut in the institute's budget of DM150,000 (about £38,000) and for stricter accountability so that in future all funds made available for musical activity should be spent only on music.

The Foreign Ministry, to which the Goethe Institute is ultimately responsible, rejected the accusations of bias as lacking any basis. A statement last month said the institute's work was, as previously, independent of political parties and did not need alteration.

The ministry admitted that twice there had been lapses: once when Herr Jo Leinen, a leader of the anti-nuclear peace movement, criticised nuclear power plants in Brazil, and once when Herr Günter Grass, the author, had represented the viewpoint of opponents of development.

prepare to select their candidate to fight an expected second-term attempt by President Reagan.

"There is a tremendous problem facing the Democratic Party and that is how to run against a popular president in the middle of a robust economic recovery and during a period of renewed national pride."

Even Mr Cuomo had to admit that in Mr Reagan, the Republicans have an asset which the Democrats could not match. "You're not going to beat Reagan on charisma," conceded Mr Cuomo, who has endorsed Mr Walter Mondale as the Democratic presidential candidate.

But the core of Mr Cuomo's attack - which is likely to be a central theme of the Democratic campaign next year - was the unfairness of the President's programme. What ever progress had been achieved during the past three years had been enjoyed by the rich and had been at the expense of the poor.

After the debate, it was generally agreed among the largely conservative audience that Mr Cuomo had won on points, mainly because of his charisma and his flair as a speaker. These are qualities which will ensure him a key role in next year's campaign and why an increasing number of Democrats are looking to him to become the bearer of their standard in 1988.

Almost a generation after its birth, Ron Moody (right) tonight at the Aldwych returns to *Oliver!*, the musical that made his name: interview by Sheridan Morley

Archetype of the genuine English musical classic

"I'm a lonely man; I never married, have no children. This seemed a great way to spend Christmas." Thus Ron Moody, explaining why after 23 years he is at it at the age of 59, which is probably about the age I should have been originally for Fagin.

"At first even I never wanted to do it. They told me there was this musical of *Oliver Twist* so I went to see the Alec Guinness film which I found so anti-Semitic as to be unbearable. But then I thought I am Jewish as I am and we both felt an obligation to get Fagin away from a viciously racist stereotype and instead make him what he really is - a crazy old Father Christmas gone wrong. The curious thing about the show is that it can never really fail: I went to see the touring version and at first I was appalled by how broad it had got and how far away from our original, but then the kids come on and that marvelous Sean Connery set comes to life and I thought he might like me to be in *Oliver!* in rehearsal he couldn't believe that I had no training of any kind, had never been to drama class, voice class, movement class, nothing. Just the LSE and then he said, 'You've been giving seminars in drama which lasted all through rehearsals and were fascinating unfortunately the show wasn't, and we closed in a fortnight. It was supposed to have been a critical success but even the critics hated it. Still, Peter Coe, who's always been my great supporter, saw it and asked me to audition for Fagin. Lionel walked out of the audition because he said he wanted a star, but Coe persuaded him I could do it and the rest you know. Once I got over the anti-Semitism I knew there was something remarkable there like Rastputin and Svengali, Fagin is a mesmerist figure."

But Moody left the original run after the first year, largely to set up his own musical about Grimaldi which in the event took him five years and lost

current affairs, got fascinated by Shaw's theories of socialism and decided the first thing I had to get was a proper education. So from the RAF I went to study sociology at the London School of Economics and that was where it all started. Not the sociology, you understand, the showbusiness. Fenella Fielding happened to be doing a friend's favour by appearing in a student revue there, and some writers came to have a look.

"Peter Myers and Ronnie Case saw me and suggested I might like to work in some of the sketches they were then writing for Little Theatre clubs like the Irving and the New Lindsey, and so by day I did sociology and by night I did the jokes. Then I gave up the sociology and spent about five years on Shaftesbury Avenue in revues like *For Amusement Only* and *For Adults Only*. Then an American director saw me and thought he might like me to be in *Candide* in rehearsal he couldn't believe that I had no training of any kind, had never been to drama class, voice class, movement class, nothing. Just the LSE and then he said, 'You've been giving seminars in drama which lasted all through rehearsals and were fascinating unfortunately the show wasn't, and we closed in a fortnight. It was supposed to have been a critical success but even the critics hated it. Still, Peter Coe, who's always been my great supporter, saw it and asked me to audition for Fagin. Lionel walked out of the audition because he said he wanted a star, but Coe persuaded him I could do it and the rest you know. Once I got over the anti-Semitism I knew there was something remarkable there like Rastputin and Svengali, Fagin is a mesmerist figure."

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Concerts

Discovering delight

Sinfonietta/Atherton Queen Elizabeth Hall

Three months ago the Royal Opera House gave us the coloured frontpiece in their magical production of *L'Enfant et les sortilèges*, now the pages of the Ravel/Varese Festival have begun to turn in earnest, but with quite the same liveliness and delight. The festival is continuing over the next eight weeks, and clearly, if Monday night's opening concert is anything to go by, no musical winter is going to be complete unless brightened by at least one visit.

I suppose one's expectation of these concerts would have their most remarkable discoveries in the music of Varese, born a hundred years ago into a world wholly unprepared for music of such violent beauty; it is so still, which is why Varese continues to shock on the rare occasions his music is heard. This first concert, however, suggested we are going to be learning just as much about Ravel, if not more.

Partly this was a matter of programming. Varese was represented by his two weakest scores - by, indeed, the only two weak scores in his output. In *Offrandes* he was still finding his feet, or rather cutting loose from his Debussian past, while at the same time succumbing to an unfortunate taste for bathetic specimens of surrealist incantation. *Nocturnal* comes from the other end of his career, when he had abandoned hope

so far as to go with Anais Nin into her *House of Incest* and come out with some awful bits of religious-sexual fantasizing. A foretaste of the vocal style of the *Dahe* here is not the happiest inspiration of Varese's musical prophet.

Both works had a soloist of ardent faith in Dorothy Dorow, appearing at short notice, but for the real Varese one had to wait for the solo flute piece *Density 21.5*, to which Sebastian Bell brought all the skill, daring and strong purpose of someone delivering heroic Handel arias.

The Ravel part of the evening was all on this level. At the start there was the quirky little Fanfare, with solo woodwinds sounding like toy trumpets, and then from another part of the nursery came the complete *Mother Goose* score. David Atherton and the London Sinfonietta, main partners in this whole enterprise, wrapped the piece up in all its sumptuousness of colour and smoothness of contour, but without forgetting that at the heart of it there is something small and real.

The marriage of extreme sophistication with a childlike clarity and immediacy is central to Ravel, and it was celebrated again in the G major Piano Concerto. Paul Crossley packed volumes of moodiness and wit into brilliant, multi-faceted musical objects, and challenged every orchestral soloist to the same vividness and virtuosity. A masterpiece was made new.

Paul Griffiths

RPO/Weller Festival Hall

There is no reason why short, dark days should necessarily produce long, pale concerts, but it does happen, and Monday night at the Festival Hall was a case in point.

The popular programme of Mozart and Dvorak had drawn a sizeable audience of all ages, and children and grandparents alike in their Sunday best were rewarded by playing that lacked, alas, any comparable sense of occasion.

Mozart's *Nachtmusik* had never seemed less *klutze*: what set out to be a pleasingly nonsense period of serenading ended up weary from the shallow breathing of its phrasing and the lacklustre tempi and dynamic shaping.

Next came Tamas Vasyry with Mozart's K456 Piano Concerto in B flat. Walter Weller, the Royal Philharmonic's principal conductor, can pull out plenty of *fortes* when he wants to, particularly for example in the orchestral responses to the piano's delicate filigree variations in the slow movement. But finesse and nuancing of phrasing are not among them: the energy of the

When Thomas Kenally wrote a novel about the subject of last night's Schindler (Thames) there was some controversy over its status as either fact or fiction. The same question necessarily arises with television documentaries (especially, one might add, when they are narrated by Dirk Bogarde, who would make the Scriptures sound faintly suspect); although this one was described as the "true story", its mixture of archive material and contemporary reminiscence suggested the presence of art as well as reality.

The lineaments of Oskar Schindler's history, at least, are sufficiently well known. He was a minor German industrialist who, during the war years, in

Theatre Mother Goose Palace, Watford

Before the Christmas deluge gets under way, spare a thought for this modest entertainment, a thoroughly workmanlike job in every department, from its cartwheeling dances to its well-sustained audience routines, adding up exactly to the promised traditional family pantomime.

If that description raises a yawn, you have reckoned without Peter John, veteran panto author and dame, whose idea of a traditional show by no means excludes what lies outside the Palace Theatre. As a panto theme, *Mother Goose* is almost as free as *Old King Cole*, and Mr John has invented most of his story from scratch. He may bring on a demon king and a good fairy, turn out cross-talk for the squire and the village idiot, and go to town on an underwater ballet and a transformation scene. But his villain (David Gant) is a demon of discontent who tries to seduce the dame into buying furniture on the never-never, and who persuades the squire to drive a motorway from the idyllic cardboard landscape straight through Mother Goose's cottage.

When the search party arrive (by yellow submarine) to rescue the kidnapped Golden Goose, Mr Gant is waiting for them with a computer programmed to indoctrinate them with advertising jingles. It is a warning that would strike home anywhere; but particularly among the ring roads and shopping precincts of what is left of Watford.

Mr John plays a robust dame, well able to coax strong men from the house to flap a basket full of knickers in a laundry chorus. Stephen Bent makes firm friends with the audience as his idiot son, and Cheryl Pay offers an amazingly long-legged principal boy. Bob Carlton's production is handsomely dressed. Irving Wardle



him most of his savings: "We couldn't even give away free seats. I did nine revues for about five different management, finally they brought in Waterhouse and Hall, it ran two weeks and people still blame me for not getting it right. Some things are better left unstated, but I got fascinated and that was that."

"I think I'm a straight actor who occasionally does musicals; most people think I'm an eccentric comedian. It's amazing how many years you can spend in this business just sorting out something as simple and basic as that. I seem to spend a lot of my time turning down quite good jobs - most recently the National Theatre's *You Can't Take It With You* and years ago Disney's *Bedknobs and Broomsticks*. I could probably have retired on the money they were offering for that one, but I really don't see any point in doing a script unless I'm intrigued by it. I quite often get intrigued by very bad scripts, of course, but that's the risk you take, and I don't have a mortgage or children to worry about, so I don't at all mind being left alone to get on with another novel for a year or so."

"I don't think a professional agent or theatre manager would say my career had gone as well as perhaps it should have after that first *Oliver!* success, but then again I was never really intending to have a career in the professional theatre in the first place. Considering that I set out to be a sociologist, I think I've really done quite well."

Television

Sensational kind of humanity

Poland, rescued and protected the Jews in his employment; he bribed his friends in the SS to secure the release of certain Jews, and created his own "concentration camp" to secure them from the attentions of his compatriots.

The human facts of the matter are still harrowing, and some of the pictures from the concentration camps were difficult to watch, but as a result Schindler's actions seem all the more extraordinary. The horror and inhumanity provoked in most a feeling of powerlessness, and yet for Schindler it became an opportunity for action. It is difficult to know where such strength comes from - he was a vain man, a philanthropist who liked to be the

centre of attention, but it is often in such people rather than in those of a more claustrophobic disposition that true heroism springs.

Last night's documentary might be described as an "adventure story", if the conditions of the time did not render such an expression ludicrously inappropriate. The testimony of the Jewish survivors was terrible in its factuality and its restraint, which is why their obvious respect and affection for Oskar Schindler was all the more powerful. This was an extraordinary programme, which took a sensational story and lent it a human face.

Peter Ackroyd

Mining deal threatens Amazonians

Brasilia (AFP) - About 25,000 Amazonian Indians are threatened by a government decision which allows private companies to enter Indian territories to prospect for gold, diamonds and other minerals.

The presidential decree is being challenged by Senator Mario Juruna, Brazil's only Indian deputy, as unconstitutional. He described it as one more intrusion to do away with the Indians.

A government spokesman recently defended the decision. "The non-exploitation of natural resources, which are vital to national security and to the development process, cannot be justified by the single fact that these resources are located in indigenous lands."

The Government says it is acting in the best interests of the Indians, pledging to mechanize mining as much as possible to reduce the intrusion of outsiders and to supervise the private companies.

Uruguay paper silenced

Montevideo (Reuters) - Uruguay's military Government has shut down one of the country's leading newspapers for three days for publishing an interview with an exiled politician.

El Dia is the second publication to be silenced in less than a week for publishing stories on Senator Wilson Ferreira, an exiled leader of the opposition Blanco Party.

President Gregorio Alvarez said in a statement that the *El Dia* interview with Señor Ferreira, published on Sunday, violated laws barring news reports on people deprived of political rights.

The military government closed down *Somos Idea* magazine, the journal of the Blanco Party, for 12 weeks for carrying a cover picture of Señor Ferreira. Since 1981 the Government has closed 18 news publications, four of them permanently.

Dress rehearsal for next year's election

The great American divide

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

Two of the most influential US politicians, sons of immigrants who followed different political tracks, have provided Americans with a clear picture of the choices which face them in next year's presidential election campaign.

In a debate in Washington last week, Mr Mario Cuomo of New York and Mr George Deukmejian of California, the two most popular and powerful states, showed clearly that, despite their similar backgrounds, they represent the growing split between the left and right in American politics.

Both are native New Yorkers, classmates at law school in the 1950s. Both confounded pollsters during gubernatorial races last year by pulling off upset victories and both are being mentioned as likely candidates in the 1988 presidential election.

But there the comparison ends. Mr Cuomo, born of Italian parents, is an advocate of the "new deal" school of liberalism that has been at the heart of the Democratic Party for the past 50 years. "Mario Cuomo can make liberalism again," said Mr Ben Wattenberg, co-editor of *Public Opinion* magazine, who chaired last week's debate.

Mr Deukmejian, who is of Armenian stock, is a classic example of the new Republican conservatives who have risen to



Right and left: Mr Deukmejian (left) and Mr Cuomo (right)

prominence since President Reagan took office. "Deukmejian is so conservative he still believes in arithmetic," Mr Wattenberg said.

There was a political edge to his joke. Whereas Mr Reagan failed to balance the budget when he was Governor of California, Mr Deukmejian succeeded in doing so without raising taxes, simply by slashing spending by \$1,500m (£1,030m). Referring to the \$200,000m federal deficit, Mr Wattenberg said: "Some conservatives are now saying 'Let Reagan be Deukmejian'."

The Cuomo-Deukmejian debate, which formed part of a public policy week organized by the American Enterprise Institute, a conservative Washington think-tank, was essentially a dress rehearsal for the real battle in the presidential elections next year.

Mr Deukmejian quickly put his finger on what the Democrats are up against as they

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THE JEWEL IN THE CROWN
9 January 1984
GRANADA TELEVISION

SPECTRUM

André Previn takes over as music director of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in 1985.

But he is a compulsive musician, and already he is at work with the RPO on a nine-hour series for television – the medium that brings to life his versatility

Four ages of a musician for all seasons

By Norman Lebrecht

It is entirely characteristic of André Previn that he should have started work as music director of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra almost two years ahead of his official installation in June 1985. Whatever else may have changed (and much has) in the four years since he ceased to be a fixture in London's musical firmament, Previn's enthusiasm and appetite for work remain insatiable.

For four months of each year he is committed to the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, whose music director he has been since 1976. The rest of the time he flits about guest-conducting the world's major orchestras in Berlin, Vienna, Amsterdam, London, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia and New York. In addition he goes on chamber music tours with the principals of the Vienna Philharmonic, records two LPs every three months (he has contracts to fulfil with both EMI and Philips), composes and writes (his *Guide to Music* is published this month by Macmillan). He also makes television programmes and commercials. "I don't know how not to work so hard," he says flatly. "I'm crazy about my profession. When somebody offers me two weeks in Amsterdam or Boston, before I know what I've said, I've said 'yes'."

When his new wife, Heather, suggested a holiday in Bermuda, Previn's instinct was to respond: "Why Bermuda? There is no orchestra in the Caribbean."

Of late Previn has been guiding his new orchestra through a nine-hour television examination of the symphony, a series scheduled for 1984. While members of the RPO filter into the studio, Previn sits staidly in a lair-like BBC dressing room, as tense as if this were his TV debut. He can scarcely bring himself to eat or drink before the arduous filming session.

In conversation he is dull, evasive, and distracted, becoming animated only when discussing intricacies of make-up and costume for the show. Yet the flickering of a camera signal will transform this terse, morose conductor, brusque to the point of incivility, into the familiar living-room fount of bonhomie, wit and musical

wisdom. Associates speak wonderingly of his ability to switch moods instantaneously.

On television, his versatility is unique among musicians, surpassing the raw passion of Bernstein's pioneering programmes with a sophisticated array of devices calculated to lure the least musical of viewers. Previn is at home on television, more so perhaps than anywhere else.

He is German by birth, American by citizenship, part-British by domicile. He claims England as his home, established during 11 years with the London Symphony Orchestra and reinforced by his new three-year arrangement with the RPO. He has kept the house in Surrey following his divorce from Mia Farrow and returns there regularly from his global peregrinations. "He also had the common sense," says Heather Previn dryly, "to take an English wife and an English secretary." The arrival of an English child is expected shortly.

The Previn who has set out to recapture a dominant position in musical London is no longer the glitzy, flip-flopping galvanized it in the early 1970s. Previn is on the threshold of his fourth period.

The first, now almost a childish irrelevance, was the Hollywood era as jazz pianist, film composer and Oscar accumulator. The second saw his rise to musical respectability via Houston and the LSO.

IN THE third, his Pittsburgh leadership and Public Broadcasting Service programmes won him acceptance in the US. The fourth period, his re-entry into a now-troubled London music arena, could well determine the conclusive verdict of history on this meteoric performer. He is not unaware of the significance of that verdict.

At 54, Previn is beginning to show signs of age. There is a hunching in his shoulders, a thinning in his cheeks. He has been stricken by an artistic complaint in one foot and let it be known he would call off the BBC television series rather than submit to the indignity of having to conduct from a stool. He has cancelled a



André Previn: 'I don't know how not to work so hard' (Photograph by Dmitri Kasterine)

number of concerts in December to have surgery on the offending foot and will be chair-bound for a month. "But the doctors say I'll be back playing tennis afterwards," he says cheerfully. Nonetheless the whizzkid has, inevitably, begun to slow down.

The third period, however, has also brought greater maturity as a conductor. His musical relationship with the Pittsburgh added administrative experience to his musical authority. As Music Director (at the LSO he was merely Principal Conductor), he is responsible for everything from hiring and firing players to programming the children's concert. He will undertake similar responsibilities at the RPO and, he believes, it is no coincidence that the LSO has swiftly upgraded Claudio Abbado's status to Music Director.

"When I came to work here in 1968," he reflects, "it was absolutely undeniable that London was the

greatest musical centre in the world. That position is much shakier now – for reasons of inflation, recession, the decline of audiences and the record industry. It used to be taken for granted that a good programme, or soloist, or conductor, would fill the Festival Hall. That is no longer the case."

Previn promises to spend a lot of time in the next year researching new programming possibilities for the RPO. He is unwilling so far to reveal any of his ideas, but maintains that the other London orchestras have reacted to the slump by becoming "wildly conservative". That is not a course he is likely to follow.

In Pittsburgh he has enjoyed considerable freedom with programming and is keen to emphasise his promotion of new music. "In any of the big cities of America, orchestral subscriptions are sold for the whole season and music directors can afford

to be adventurous. If I want to put on an evening of, say, Messiaen and Elliott Carter, there may be a lot of empty seats – but they have all been paid for."

He has also persisted with the advancement of British music that he began in London. It was Previn, more than any other, who restored Vaughan Williams and Walton to general circulation – and has given the US premiere of Tippett's Triple Concerto, as well as works by John McCabe, Oliver Knussen and Nicholas Maw. He has also, while on tour, given innumerable local premières of more familiar works.

One of the highlights of his career was to take Britten and Walton to Russia with the LSO in 1970. "They were about as friendly as Britten and Walton were going to be," he laughs, "but I was just pleased to be in the same room. Sir William was thrilled with the screaming ovation – about twenty minutes of it – that his First Symphony got in Moscow." Previn treasures a photograph of himself and Walton in full concert dress clutching cans of beer as Russian officials toasted them in vodka.

On the Soviet tour Previn established his own reputation as an outstanding interpreter of Russian music. In the meantime, however, since collaborating with Tom Stoppard on *Every Good Boy Deserves Favour*, a musical set in a Soviet psychiatric hospital, he is no longer welcome in the Soviet Union. An attempt last year to return with an American television network to cover the International Tchaikovsky Competition was discreetly but efficiently blocked. "It was just after the Barbican revival of *EGGBDF* opened in Vienna, he found himself unable to enter East Germany to record the Brahms Requiem in Dresden. "I had a very kind letter from the orchestra, saying how sorry they were."

His forthcoming compositions are less controversial. There is a long-promised piano concerto for Vladimir Ashkenazy which he expects to complete by next summer, and an orchestral piece commissioned by the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra for the 1985 Salzburg Festival.

Despite the pedigree of his clients, Previn makes no undue claims for himself, as composer or conductor. He is acutely aware of his own limitations and of market realities, refusing for example to consider the possibility of recording a Beethoven cycle, the conductor's ultimate accolade. "If someone goes into a record shop and asks for the *Eroica*, and he is then given a list of everyone since Nikisch who recorded it, why wouldn't he pick some gigantic interpretation? No, I never think of records as a vanity. I'd like them to have some validity and I'd like them to sell enough so that the company isn't sorry they were made." In fact his sales record is such that he has made more recordings than any but three or four other conductors in the history of the gramophone.

It would appear that the Beethoven cycle is one of numerous unfulfilled ambitions that Previn hints at but will not disclose. He insists, however, that he does not hanker after any other musical positions. Pittsburgh and the RPO will suffice until the late 1980s.

For a man who overextends himself so consistently, Previn has reduced his failure rate to a barely perceptible minimum. He no longer has to fly by the seat of his pants, learning music as he conducts it. The whizzkid is still whirling, but a purpose and direction may be discerned as he prepares his return to London.

moreover...
Miles Kington

Just half a juggler

Because this column does not deal much in wars, death or economic disaster, it is assumed by many to be humorous, an impression I try to foster as much as possible. One strange side-effect of this is that publishers occasionally send me humorous books, being quite unaware apparently that humorous columnists are traditionally morose people who hate dogs, people and work, in no particular order. But some of these books have been so life-enhancing that I have been driven to utter the occasional grunt or to think to myself that I ought to give them to someone for Christmas, and in gratitude I would like to mention their names so that they can stand up and take a bow.

The Meaning of Liff by Douglas Adams and John Lloyd (Pan £1.95) is a small dictionary giving fictitious meanings to place names, such as Widdicombe. "The sort of person who imitates Trimpingtons," or Skellow: "Descriptive of the satisfaction experienced when looking at a really good dry-stone wall." This book has been widely criticised because Paul Jennings did the same thing years ago. Well, he didn't quite. Jennings was primarily interested in the sound and flavour of the place names; these two are much more interested in meanings for which there is no known word, and have amassed a great collection.

For instance, this is the first time I have seen the brilliant concept of "nervously indecisive about how safely to dispose of a dud lightbulb" expressed. The fact that they have matched it when looking at a dud lightbulb is irrelevant. And what about "One of the rather unfunny newspaper clippings pinned to an office wall, the humour of which is supposed to derive from the fact that the headline contains a name similar to that of one of the occupants of the office"? It's a Snitter, actually, but a snitter by any other name would read as dully. NB: Some of the definitions are risqué. Not enough, but some.

The Oxford Book of Puns... No, I didn't laugh at that. *Sweet and Sour* is a marvellous mixed salad of comic verse from the kitchens of Christopher Logue (Bassford £6.95), which occasionally gets a bit too near poetry but most of the time is full of unknown wonderful tastes. It's only just exceeded by *The New Ewart: Poems 1980-82* (Hutchinson £4.95) and I don't care if this was published in 1982 – I've only just got round to Gavin Ewart's superb verse, which I suppose is my own silly fault.

I would have nominated *The Rainy Day Biff* as comic drawing book of the year (Chris Garratt and Mike Kidd's switched-on postcards are maturing faster than Glen Baxter's stuff) if I hadn't encountered Hunt Emerson's *The Big Book of Everything* (Knockabout Comics £3.95). Emerson's style derives a bit from California, a bit from Krazy Kat, a bit from jazz... oh, who cares about influences, its just mind-blasting free-wheeling stuff which would make the man famous here if Britain showed the respect for humorous drawing that France, Germany or America does. Personally, I'm proud to be British along with a man like this.

Second From Last in the Sack Race by David Nobbs (Methuen £7.95) is the funniest and saddest novel of the year. From the Reginald Perrin workshop, it seems to dig deeper without losing a sense of humour. If I said it was the story of a northern childhood you would run screaming, so I won't. Put it this way: Turn to page 93 and read the first paragraph starting "His reading was North. Biggles Flies South. Biggles Flies East. Biggles Flies West. Biggles Flies In. Biggles Flies Out and Biggles Sweeps the Desert." They were written by Captain W. E. Johns, whose main virtue was that he was the greatest writer who ever lived... and I challenge you not to read more.

I see that the great *Ascent of Rum Doodle* is out again, which does for mountaineering what P. G. Wodehouse did for valets. But the book I have read most often is *Juggling for the Complete Khatz*, by Cassidy and Rimbaux (Fontana £4.95) including three juggling balls which has left me half a juggler. It hasn't made me laugh, but has made me cry, groan, whoop, grunt and scream (as all three balls fell behind the bed just when I was getting the hang) which is more than *War and Peace* ever did.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 223)

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| ACROSS | DOWN |
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| 1 Wealth (6) | 1 Marmalade |
| 4 Washbasin (6) | 2 Headquarters (4) |
| 7 Abundant supply | 3 Secondary verb (9) |
| (4) | 3 Usual chaos (5) |
| 8 Other self (5,3) | 4 Turning cutter (5) |
| 9 Indulged (8) | 5 Undergo change (4) |
| 12 Moisture drops (3) | 6 Railway track (5) |
| 15 Insincerely (6) | 10 Coward and |
| 16 Grinder (6) | primrose hybrid (5) |
| 19 Urge on (3) | 11 Seed furrow (5) |
| 20 Debar (8) | 12 Detention (9) |
| 24 Bearing (8) | 13 Caution (4) |
| 25 Chew away (4) | 14 Curious (4) |
| 26 State of uproar (5) | 15 Dodge (5) |
| 27 Subtle point (6) | 16 Kingdom (5) |
| | 21 Unsolved (5) |
| | 22 Seed appendage (4) |
| | 23 Askew (4) |

SOLUTION TO No 222
ACROSS: 1 Mentor 5 Dibs 8 Taunt 9 Control
11 Euphoria 13 Atop 15 Daisi Lama 18 Hide
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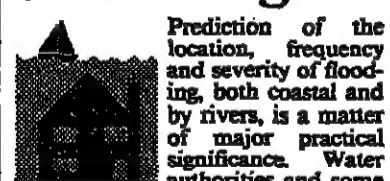
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Real cost of flooding



Prediction of the location, frequency and severity of flooding, both coastal and by rivers, is a matter of major practical significance. Water authorities and some local authorities routinely make such assessments. The Thames Barrage, for instance, was only constructed after exhaustive appraisals of the likely risk of a tidal surge inundating low-lying areas of London. Most such studies incorporate a cost/benefit analysis.

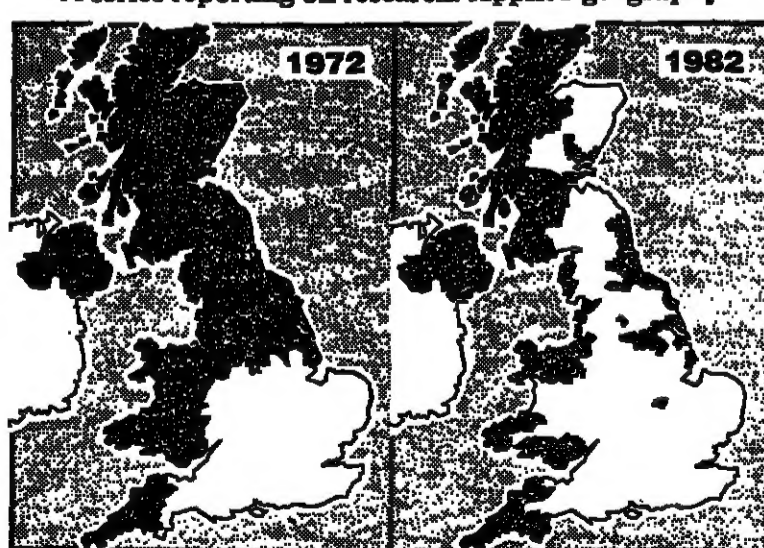
One topic in which academic geographers both in the United States and in Britain have played a leading part is in establishing not only the real but also the perceived hazard and in comparing these. Specifically, the Flood Hazard Research Centre in Middlesex Polytechnic is run by geographers and has carried out a series of studies under contract to various agencies. One of their recent projects was an assessment of the benefits of coast protection proposals for Swalecliffe, carried out at the bidding of Canterbury City Council. The area suffered flooding in 1978 and 1979. Parker, Green and Penning-Roswell have shown that, to those involved, the intangibles of worry, disruption of life and health effects rank even higher than damage to house and contents (which currently form the basis of cost-benefit appraisal of flood-control schemes).

Regions in crisis

Half a century has passed since the first major government legislation on regional assistance. By the 1970s, there existed in Britain a notable degree of consensus on the need for an active policy aimed at reducing the gross economic disparities between regions. The incoming Labour Government of 1974 retained the "Conservative" 1972 Industry Act as the basis for its regional policy. The consensus has collapsed in the last few years and the present Government has progressively reduced both the areas qualifying for aid and the level of the aid itself.

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: Applied geography



Charting industrial decay: the changing face of Britain

What has not existed until now is a comprehensive, consistent and a detailed survey of the impacts of the recession in the regions of Britain. This has now been provided by the Regional Studies Association through a panel of geographers, economists, planners and sociologists interpreting the findings of dozens of local experts throughout the country.

Drawing also upon the computerized employment and unemployment information system set up by geographers for the Manpower Services Commission, the survey paints an unequivocal picture of industrial decay in some regions, of some desperate attempts to restrict local economies, of the relative buoyancy of less urbanized areas of southern England and of the impacts on male and female employment.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the authors of the study do not nurture rosy views: they foresee the probability of an increase in unemployment in certain regions, they recognise the difficulty of providing regional aid when there is no growth to "steer" and are realistic about the need for political acceptance of the case for a stronger regional policy. Nonetheless, they

make out a good case for and describe the objectives of Regional Preferential Assistance, suggest criteria for eligibility and propose the formulation of regional economic strategies.

Armageddon located

Thanks to the work of Openshaw and Steadman, we now know that the Home Office descriptions of the likely impact of a nuclear strike on Britain are seriously in error. The official estimates have now been acknowledged by the minister as fallacious, resulting from a series of computational mistakes and unreasonable assumptions. The duo contributed important evidence to the British Medical Association inquiry on the medical effects of nuclear war; they have now gone further and produced an assessment of the likely effects of various different attack strategies.

Their results, published in *Doomsday: Britain After Nuclear Attack* (Blackwells) are based upon popular data for no fewer than 150,000 areas in Britain and use arguably the best available assumptions on blast

damage and fallout, provided by the US Department of Defence: protection from buildings and meteorological and many other factors are taken into account.

Their computer models predict and produce maps of the geographical extent of the holocaust. Locally, the variations in survival rates are, of course, extremely great: with the "most realistic" strategy, in which missiles are aimed at industries and targets of military and strategic significance, the survival rate within counties varies from 0.6 per cent (Lancashire) to 99 per cent (East Sussex).

Geography of cricket

Cricket lovers will need no reminding that fortunes in their favourite game are intimately linked to British weather. The events of last summer, in which a number of games in the early part of the season were washed out and many games were subsequently played in debilitating heat, amply confirm this contention. But what if the effects are not random, i.e. what if some teams consistently suffer more frequently than others from the vagaries of the weather? Clearly where teams are in good form and liable to win, then the abandonment of matches deprives them of points in the county championship.

The climate of different parts of Britain is, therefore, a matter of real concern to counties and to the MCC. Thorne has conducted an analysis of the direct effects of rain on cricket and used as data the 170 county matches played in 1974, one of the wettest cricketing summers on record. Of these 85 were rain-affected in one way or another. Two matches were abandoned without a ball being bowled, including Hampshire's final fixture against Yorkshire – which probably cost them the championship.

Taking into account the changing incidence of rainfall through the season and the variations throughout Britain, all based on data for a 30-year period, Thorne concluded that the effects of rainfall were substantial and should be compensated by the addition of weather-compensation points, related to the time lost in a game.

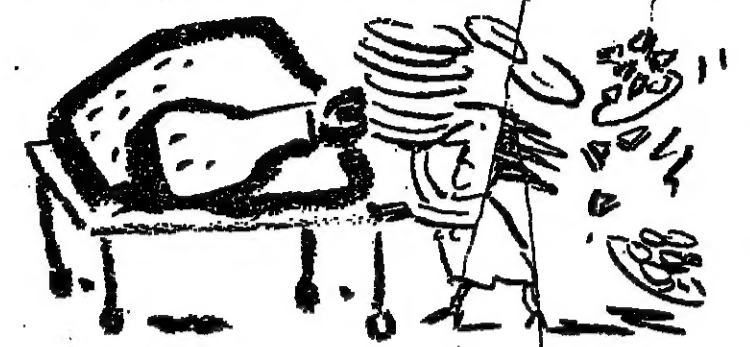
David Rhind

WEDNESDAY PAGE

DIARY OF A JOB HUNTER

I have been buttering bridge rolls, serving sausage rolls, transporting turkeys through underground corridors, taking trays of mince pies to the sixteenth floor, with further trips up to the penthouse - office kitchens are rarely in the most convenient of locations - partitioning pizzas into easily edible bites, quartering quiches, chopping cucumbers, slicing sandwiches, peeling prawns.

For such a job, I have to thank my father - the advantage of "contacts". In his efforts to find a caterer for his own office party he spoke to a firm suffering from a shortage of staff. If he had hoped that catering work would extend my cooking repertoire in time for Christmas he has been



disappointed. Stuffing dates with marzipan to feed 300 - allowing three per head - demanded perseverance rather than culinary expertise or artistic ability. Stronger arms were also required. Creative cuisine has remarkable similarities with manual labour. My first task - I had to whip sufficient cream to decorate Yule logs and pineapple and ginger meringues with only the use of a fork - was very hard work. I would, however, recommend it to anyone wishing to lose weight.

Plates too tend to be very heavy. They are made of some form of unbreakable concrete. I can vouch for this as not one single broke when I was promoted to waitressing and fell over.

I had been informing my friends that I found waitressing easy, that their stories of turned-over trolleys, muddling salt and sugar, spilling soup, and other mishaps were gross exaggerations, plainings of *Fanny Flowers* and such like, and that I no longer believed them. I will be less hasty in future.

In fact I must have created quite an impression as a waitress. There was no danger of my being mistaken for a guest. We all had to wear skirts

PENELOPE LEACH



Babies do not arrive with operating instructions and a service manual: this is clearly perceived as a lack both by new parents and by publishers, for bookshops are bulging with glossy books without which, if you believe the blurbs, no parent could ever rear a child.

Spock's *Baby and Child Care* is the granddaddy of them all. Excellent on illnesses, he is antiquated about behaviour: he favours very early weaning to avoid over-dependence on the mother, hates the family bed idea and fears that a toddler will be unhealthily "stimulated" by the sight of a nude parent.

A woman struggling to breast-feed a newborn baby will do better to find a sympathetic helper, perhaps through the National Childbirth Trust, but books can be handy when things go wrong. The most practical one, which is also least likely to blind with science, is Sheila Kitzinger's *The Experience of Breastfeeding*: this describes a gentle breast-pump that really works and has the great advantage of being home-made from a jamjar - a woman with mastitis and a soaring temperature is not in a fit state to carry her baby on a tour of surgical supplies.

Cookery books for slightly older babies are by contrast a tremendous fraud. They would tell parents into spending hours mashing together such horrors as carrot cloud or fish and cheese dinner and they are rabidly against using tins or packets to provide the teaspoonful or so of sludge which a six-month-old child is expected to eat.

Anna Haycraft's *Natural Baby Food* is dauntingly old-fashioned with its recipes for tripe, brains and beef test. But the suggestion of them all, which I in my time have loved to hate, is Barbara Griggs' *Baby's Cookbook*: her children, we learn, are wonders of health and paragons of behaviour thanks to the sterling work put in by the mother's help

MIRIAM STOPPARD'S



with chopping-board or grater, masher, grinder, blender or mincer". I tried all this in a half-hearted way with our first baby, and he spat it out as freely as he did the stuff from the start what we were having anyway, and I minded a lot less.

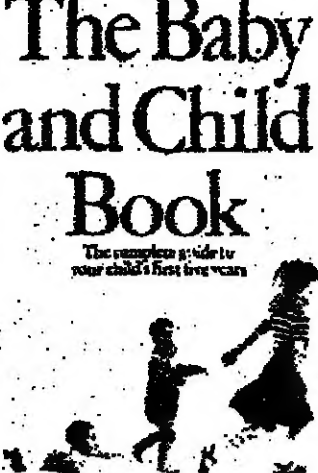
Another favourite single subject is child psychology, a good seller for those times when any baby will seem mad, bad and incomprehensible.

Penelope Leach *Babyhood* shows off the writer's learning with a bibliography of more than 200 academic references and tends to be authoritarian, with charts and lists of what a baby should be doing at different ages; my babies did not fit her schema at all, yet young and alarming dull-wittedness almost by the day.

Martin Herbert's *Problems of Childhood* is more aimed at child-care professionals, while Winnicott's re-issued *The Child, The Family and the Outside World* which claims to be lay reading is in fact heavily and technically psycho-analytic, providing strong meat indeed for parents in its highly theoretical discussions of infant sexual fantasies and a baby's emotional relationship with his carers.

The book that does seem to get it right is Tom Crabtree's *An A-Z of Children's Emotional Problems*. An educational psychologist, Crabtree has obviously read the research literature himself but forbears to ram it down his readers' throats; he is witty and sympathetic both to the young and their struggling parents, and is refreshingly opposed to

Dr Andrew & Penny Stanway



earnest self-immolation on the altar of perfect parenthood.

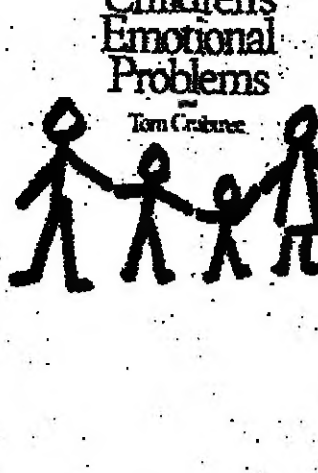
Books on rearing children fall into two very different classes: these are the cosy and general ones, full of pictures and keen to offend no one, and there are the didactic and bossy ones, usually pushing a particular viewpoint with missionary zeal.

The carefully general books tend to be dull compendiums of clichés despite their bizarre moments: a book put out by the magazine *Mother* and "compiled by an experienced family doctor" solemnly recommends putting a piece of onion into boiling water as a stratagem to mislead hungry husbands into thinking supper will soon be ready. The *Reader's Digest/Mothercare Book* fills its pages nostalgically with *Boy's Own Annual* stuff on stamp-collecting and brass-rubbing and even includes that old malarkey the footprints of the fallow deer. When not encouraging meek middle-class hobbies, this book concentrates on puffing *Mothercare* rattles, cots and drawing-nightgowns.

Claire Rayner's *Baby and Young Child Care* is the best of the cosies in spite of its rather nasty strip cartoons showing a silly mother and a sensible one coping with feeding problems and the like then talking it over in the kitchen, as in a washing-powder advertisement. A good old-fashioned nurse, Claire Rayner is big on lists: here is merely the only book with a chart entitled "Observation on Stools" against which the hapless parent is supposed to check colour, form, odour, quantity and so on like some ancient haruspex.

These books are ultimately as

An A-Z of Children's Emotional Problems



bland as Cow and Gate, and about as demanding. The same is not true of the big and bossy ones. These are usually the work of the medical profession: there is Dr Jolly and Dr Miriam Stoppard, Dr Penelope Leach (although she is a psychologist not a physician) and the double-act of Drs Andrew and Penny Stanway.

Mothers who work or who would like to return to work while their children are small would do well to avoid Penelope Leach and the Stanways: Dr Leach especially has the vapours at the idea of a mother going out to earn bread (or even worse jam) and is not above careful editing of the research evidence on bonding and separation to back up her views.

I am a demand-feeder myself but cannot suppress some resentment at these women who can earn lots of money by sitting at home writing books that tell other women not to work. The Stanways graciously suggest, for those without medical degrees and a good publisher, telephone selling from the house or "making things at home" which is presumably a euphemism for out-of-work - a horrid prospect.

The Leach and Stanway cadre manages to imply that nursery staff and childminders are monsters akin to Grendel's mother who will probably die your child in a chair all day and beat him when he sneezes. Miriam Stoppard in her *Book of Baby Care* admits to being a working mother herself and treats the whole subject far more sympathetically; despite her clear preference for "an experienced nanny" she is at least prepared to countenance less high-flown alternatives. She is

SHEILA KITZINGER



refreshing too for owning to a sleepless child who simply cries himself into a vomiting fit when treated to the Penelope Leach approach of saying goodnight calmly but firmly then refusing to lift the child from the cot.

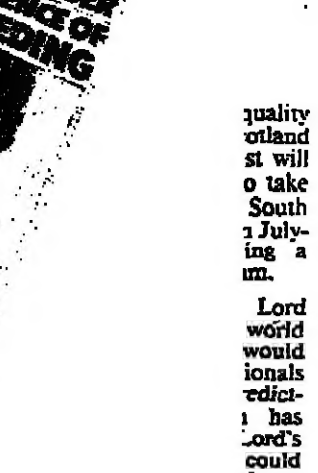
Both Leach *The Parent's A-Z* and Stanways *The Baby and Child Book* are in an alphabetical format and this means that they can cover more topics than Stoppard, handicapped and dying children for example are beyond her brief but are well handled in both the alphabetical books.

My personal favourite among the bossy doctors is Hugh Jolly, and not just because of his cheery name. In his *Book of Child Care* he can be as dogmatic as the rest of them, but admits to having changed opinions to a more laissez-faire attitude over the years, as in his approval of the "family bed" which so many parents have forced upon them willy-nilly by their babies. He describes childhood illnesses and handicaps clearly and with a calmness that has clearly come from long years working as a paediatrician; the effect on a hysterical parent at three in the morning is infinitely soothing.

The best guide for emergencies is in Leach's *The Parents' A-Z* where most horrors from adder bites to skull fractures are clearly listed under "accidents" with the appropriate action.

There are dozens of books clamouring to be bought, from the banal to the technical: after my enforced overdose of reading the last I am left bitterly depressed. My poor standard of parenting, compared with these know-alls, so would counsel anyone against reading too many. People who are confident enough will manage fine without any of them especially if their confidence extends to their GP.

THE TIMES COOK



pan and fry the leeks very gently until they are just tender, breaking them as little as possible. Remove the leeks and add the mushrooms to the pan. Sauté them gently until they are just cooked. Combine the turkey, leeks and mushrooms with the sauce and fold them together. Season the mixture with salt, black pepper and a little freshly grated nutmeg.

Turn the filling into a pie dish and set it aside until it is completely cold.

Roll out the pastry to cover the pie. Cut a strip to line the edge of the pie dish and stick it down with glaze. Place a pie funnel in the centre of the dish and top with the pastry lid. Press the edges well to seal them, and trim away the excess pastry. Decorate the pie with pastry trimmings and just before baking, glaze the top with egg.

Bake the pie in a preheated moderately hot oven (200°C/400°F, gas mark 6) for about 30 minutes, or until the crust is a rich golden brown and the filling is bubbling. If the pastry colours too quickly, reduce the heat to moderate

Talking turkey

and refrigerate it for at least 24 hours.

Just before serving decorate the *tacchino ionnato* with a border of lemon wedges or fresh bay leaves, or sprinkle it with chopped parsley.

Anyone embarking on extensive advance preparation can make the pastry and sauce for a turkey pie a day or two in advance and keep them in the refrigerator. The leeks and mushrooms could be sautéed and chilled too. To make a larger or smaller pie, double or halve the ingredients listed and add or subtract five minutes or so to the cooking time.

Turkey pie Serves four

450 g (1 lb) cooked turkey

450 g (1 lb) leeks, white part only

225 g (8 oz) tightly closed button mushrooms

55 g (2 oz) butter

450 ml (¾ pint) béchamel sauce, not too thick

THE TIMES COOK

Shona Crawford Poole

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Nutmeg, freshly grated

340 g (12 oz) short crust, flaky or puff pastry

1 egg yolk mixed with 1 tablespoon water, to glaze

Trim the turkey of skin and cut the meat into good bite-sized chunks. Wash the leeks and cut them into 2 cm (¾ inch) lengths. Wipe the mushrooms.

Melt the butter in a frying

Maybe it was a mistake to ask colleagues what sort of recipes they would find most useful for the forthcoming festivities. I had been thinking in terms of frivolous party nibbles, wildly extravagant puddings, and truly stunning hot punches.

Why was it a surprise that the most common request, by far, was for good things to do with turkey leftovers? The suggestion that buying smaller turkeys would solve the problem failed to wow them and resulted in a tart briefing to the effect that any bright ideas I might have "must answer the following criteria".

After the hassle of preparing the meal, the recipes must be simple. After digesting it, they must not be too rich. And not only must the cold turkey be well disguised, but the dishes should call for fairly routine ingredients because the shops are shut for days.

Here goes then. For slices of breast meat an adaptation of a classic Italian *filetto tonnato* is a great success for lunch, supper or a buffet party. Traditionally, sliced veal is masked in a rich, tuna flavoured mayonnaise;

4 tablespoons fresh lemon juice

Salt

Lemons and parsley or fresh bay leaves to garnish (optional)

The slices of turkey will, ideally, be about 3mm or ¼ inch thick, and the serving dish will probably be rectangular or oval with low sides, so that the meat can be arranged in one long, overlapping layer. The mayonnaise for this dish is best flavoured with lemon juice rather than vinegar.

Combine the tuna fish and its oil with the anchovies, capers, olive oil and lemon juice and blend or process the mixture until it is smooth. If this has to be done by hand, pound the tuna, anchovies and capers to a paste before adding the oil and lemon juice. Stir the fish mixture into the mayonnaise and add salt if the sauce needs it.

Spread a thin layer of the tuna sauce in the serving dish. Arrange the sliced turkey on it in an overlapping layer, spreading a little of the sauce between each slice, finally mask the slices completely in sauce. Cover the dish with plastic wrap

TALKBACK

From Mrs Sue Baker, Grange Farm Cottages, Pax Hill, Lindfield, West Sussex

I was interested to read Hilaire Gomer's article on the pros and cons of amniocentesis testing (Wednesday Page, December 7). As I am 38, and expecting our third child, we decided it would be sensible for me to have this test which was offered as a matter of routine. On the day, I was slightly apprehensive, but not unduly so, and used the waiting time to practise deep breathing, and calming exercises. When the needle was inserted I felt at first what Michael House (the consultant mentioned in your article) described as a "pin prick", but followed immediately by intense pain as the needle went through the wall of the uterus.

The test itself, which took approximately 20 minutes as the amniotic fluid came into the syringe very slowly and in minute amounts, was extremely painful, accompanied by severe nausea and faintness. Eventually I asked the doctor to stop, as I felt that such an extreme reaction might indicate possible foetal distress.

After the test the pain grew worse, gradually turning into contractions, which lasted about seven hours, and then returned on the third day for about three hours. Drugs, bed rest and good nursing care prevented me from miscarrying, and although the test could not be carried out because of a small sample obtained, we have refused the offer of another test.

I write, not to be alarmist, but to point out that there are a minority of women for whom the test is not virtually painless, nor a "pin prick".

I should be interested to know if any correlation has

been made between reactions to the test and subsequent miscarriage etc.

From Mrs Celia Bowring, Barby Gardens, London, W10

I read Hilaire Gomer's article "To abort or not to be a mother" with considerable sadness. It spoke of the uncertainties and dangers of amniocentesis but made no comment about the fact that modern babies seem to have a satisfactory specification to qualify for entry into the human race. When stillborn tests are developed to detect blindness, lameness, a cleft palate, and so on, will the parents be even more difficult to come by? How far are we from aborting the "wrong" sex?

To well worn party-line that it is more loving to abort (or allow to die when newly born) certain handicapped children may well be true for the unfortunate family and to the economically orientated society we live in, but to the small, Donis baby it is wicked rubbish.

From Alison Davis, 6 Green Lane, Parsons Heath, Colchester

Spiking as one who would undoubtedly have been aborted had amniocentesis been available when my mother was pregnant (as she was born 37 years old, and I was born with spina bifida), I can only be eternally grateful that she was not put in the position of having to "choose" whether I lived or died. I consider myself to be a normal, equal human being, with the same capacity for joy, love and happiness as anyone else and I would maintain, so too are handicapped babies, unborn at present.

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VICTORY FOR THE LAW

When the TUC general council meets today it will have before it Mr Joe Wade's account of what his union might do if the leaders of the movement supported its policies for the further prosecution of the Warrington dispute. The NGA might impose another 24-hour strike, he said, or reintroduce mass picketing, or begin an indefinite stoppage. His actions and his words indicated the character of the NGA's commitment: having squandered £750,000 of its members' funds to no purpose, it is prepared to persist with illegal action so long as it is the rest of the movement that shares responsibility for the consequences. If not, not. This was the prospect that Mr Len Murray saw opening up beneath his feet on Monday night, causing him to repudiate with unprecedented force the earlier decision of a senior TUC committee.

The frenzy of the NGA is an embarrassment to the whole of the movement, its political as well as its trade union wing. To endorse the NGA's open-ended promise of conflict would be to reject more than a century's history of campaigning to protect the interests of the movement's members within the law. To make the TUC itself party to the activities which have brought down a series of injunctions in recent weeks would be to bankrupt it not only financially but also politically. Mr Murray appreciates the danger, as he made clear yesterday. If the TUC had been as forthright in its earlier temporising statements about the dispute, the dreams of omnipotence which infected the employment committee on Monday might have been dispelled sooner.

The leaders of the NGA have no illusions of omnipotence. They see plainly that their cause can only be won if the TUC can be persuaded to take it up as a battering-ram in a constitutional challenge to Parliament and the courts. But the Warrington dispute is the worst possible ground from which to launch a political challenge. The timing is wrong, with the Government endowed with a fresh mandate and the TUC in delicate negotiations with ministers about the next round of legislation on industrial relations. The NGA corresponds as little as any union in Britain to the "Banner Bright" stereotype of the impoverished proletariat struggling to resist the exploitations of powerful management.

The principle the union is fighting for is the right of a union to insist that workers become members against their wishes - of all union objectives, the one that attracts the least public sympathy. The means the union has adopted on the streets have been illegal not only since the Tait laws but at any time this century. And of course, if the union won, the implications of success through such methods would be something that future governments would have to live with, whatever their colour.

It is bad luck on Mr Neil Kinnock that the new era that the Labour Party looked forward to under his leadership should so quickly have been thrown into yet another crisis, obliging the leader to compromise, prevaricate or button the lip to avoid confronting the party's dreamers with real life. Mr Kinnock's silences in the last two weeks have been as ignominious as Mr Foot's reversals, without the

excuse that in the months leading up to a general election it is better not to rock the boat. It was welcome yesterday to hear him confess at last that he did not condone breaches of the law, and add (if only at second hand through Mr John Smith) that he is glad the NGA have suspended their one-day strike.

The Labour front bench has concentrated on the line that what is needed to restore peace in the industry is ministerial intervention. But faith in the conciliatory abilities of one's opponents is not sufficient policy by itself. Labour has stressed the need for peace, without dwelling on the terms that peace should enshrine. The new laws, the argument goes, have transformed a minor dispute, easily soluble under the old dispensation, into a "national industrial volcano." This ignores the fact that under the old dispensation the dispute would have been resolved by the dragging of unwilling workers into the NGA, or else lose their jobs.

Now the new laws have triumphantly arrested a threat of major industrial action Mr Kinnock, as the proponent of peace, can scarcely do less than welcome that. No doubt he can trust Mr Murray today to save the TUC from giving its blessing to renewed hostilities, and from endorsing the doctrine that muscle should prevail. But a general observation from Mr Kinnock to the effect that people who believe the law to be wrong ought to change it, not break it, or words to that effect, might have reinforced Mr Murray's arm. It is what the country expects from a leader who aspires to lead.

WHEN GENERALS DISMOUNT

After the approval yesterday of Mr Turgut Ozal's cabinet by President Kanan Evren, Turkey is now once again formally under civilian rule. It has achieved this only three days behind Argentina, where military rule was introduced, in rather similar circumstances, four and a half years earlier.

The circumstances of the return to civilian rule, by contrast, could hardly be more different in the two countries. The Argentine military rulers not only overstayed their welcome long enough to mismanage the economy quite as spectacularly as their civilian predecessors; they actually managed to involve their country in an unnecessary and disastrous war, thus dashing any hope that they might retain the authority to dictate the terms of their own departure and insure their impunity for the violations of human rights committed under their aegis. How different from General Evren, who last year was able to procure himself a seven-year presidential mandate by an overwhelming plebiscite and, even if he did not get his first choice elected as prime minister, has been able to ensure that the new government is headed by a man who defends the human rights record of the military

regime, and even that civilian government will coexist, for another three months at least, with continued martial law.

The Turkish countercurrent has been, unquestionably, a better managed and less anarchic affair than that of Argentina in the late 1970s. Not many people have just "disappeared" without trace. If the number of people detained for political reasons increased vastly after the military intervention of September 1980, that was justified, in the eyes of most Turks, by the need to stamp hard on the terrorism of left and right which had reached such alarming proportions in the last months of civilian rule.

But that argument cannot justify the continued and systematic use of torture, evidence of which has been carefully collected by Amnesty International. Nothing indeed could justify the barbaric treatment of Kurdish prisoners, including the former mayor of Diyarbakir, Mr Mehdi Zana, which has been described in detail by Mr Huseyin Yildirim, who started as a lawyer for the accused and then found himself for six months sharing their ordeal, while being subjected to inhuman treatment which he has described in horrifying detail.

Imprisonment of large numbers of suspected terrorists during investigation, and execution of some of the worst offenders when duly convicted, are clearly quite a different matter. But many of those still imprisoned in Turkey for political reasons have not even been accused of terrorism.

Mr Ozal enjoys a considerable fund of Western goodwill, both as a competent economist capable of ensuring Turkey's continued creditworthiness and as a civilian who has come to power by popular choice, even if the field of choice was artificially limited. Turkey herself, even if some feel she is the main obstacle to a solution of the Cyprus problem, is generally seen in the West as a reliable and indispensable ally. But the reason that civilian, democratic government is regarded as a valuable feature in an ally is that the Western alliance aspires to be an alliance of peoples, not only of governments. Over time, the true character of an ally's government will inevitably be judged by its ability to do away with and do without repressive methods. Mr Ozal knows the West quite well enough to be aware of that, and on that understanding we can all wholeheartedly wish him luck.

AID TO AN ADVERSARY

Russia has relied heavily on Western experts and know-how since the time of Peter the Great. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries Western capital and technical assistance flowed into new industries. After the revolution Western assets were seized but Lenin soon granted concessions to Western companies. Even when these were abolished Western firms continued to sell goods, plant and know-how. After the war East-West trade declined during tensions and then revived in the 1970s. Today Soviet imports of Western machinery continue to rise in spite of the cooler political atmosphere.

There is, however, a slow change in Western policy under way. Prodded by Washington, the Nato allies have been tightening procedures designed to prevent the Soviet Union and its allies acquiring advanced technology that could be of critical value to military programmes. A review is under way of the list of goods restricted by the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (Cocom) based in Paris. Cocom is also to receive better facilities and more expert advice, though it seems unlikely to get the military panel suggested by the Americans. At the same time counter-espionage and customs surveillance have been increased in many Nato countries, particularly in the United States.

The whole issue is complex and difficult because it impinges on many sensitive areas, such as

academic freedom, commercial profits and above all trading relations with allies, as the pipeline dispute showed. It also runs into differences over the political implications of trade with the Soviet block. At the same time modern technology has made it more difficult than ever to distinguish between civilian and military applications.

The problem is to find the right response. Overall Soviet growth may not have been significantly helped by imports from the West, but there are obviously certain key areas of the economy which have gained, and in some of these there have also been military benefits. One of the examples most often cited in the United States is the Soviet purchase of American grinding machines which produced precision bearings for missile guidance systems. On the other hand Admiral Luman has testified in Washington that about seventy per cent of Soviet military gains attributed by the CIA to Western technology were acquired by Soviet and East European intelligence services using clandestine, technical and overt collection operations. Therefore legitimate trade is probably not the main culprit, and where it has been helpful to the Soviet military it has often been supplying electronic goods which are freely available over the counter in a great many parts of the world.

It is thus very difficult to find means of control which are not

at the same time damaging to Western interests. Cut down on academic publication and you limit innovation. Limit the movement of modern technology and civilian applications will suffer. Tighten controls on exports and domestic firms lose contracts to competitors outside Cocom. Press the Europeans too hard and they stop relying on American suppliers and licences. Try to guess which innovations are going to have vital military applications in five years' time and you face a hopeless task. Yet the Soviet Union clearly cannot be allowed to have an easy ride, even if its failure to catch up with the West in spite of all the help it has had suggests it will continue to lag behind for the foreseeable future.

The best thing to do is to concentrate efforts where there is already agreement among the allies. There is little dispute over the need for better counter-espionage and more expert customs controls. Nor is there any disagreement that high technology with obvious military applications should be denied to our main adversary. The Americans are also right to argue that know-how is more important than products. (This has been emphasized in a report by a Pentagon task force headed by Mr Fred Buecy Jr.) If significant progress can be made in all these areas it would help to restrict the relatively small (though still significant) contribution which legitimate trade can make to the Soviet military potential.

Concerted plan for conveyancing

From Lord Benson
Sir, The House Buyers Bill, which is shortly to be debated in Parliament, is crudely drawn and ill thought-out. The provisions which are necessary for the protection of the public are spelled out either inadequately or not at all, such as the definition of the transactions which are to be encompassed by the Bill; education and training; post-qualification education; protection of clients' money; standard of professional work; discipline; insurance; compensation and many others.

My purpose, however, is not to labour the obvious imperfections in a clumsy piece of drafting but to emphasise a more important point of principle. The professions in this country on the whole compare very favourably with those in any other part of the world and in many respects they are the acknowledged leaders. This is because, by their written constitutions and by tradition, they seek, year after year, to improve the quality of service which they give to the public.

It is achieved by imposing on their members the very constraints which are not properly dealt with in the House Buyers Bill, namely, high standards - beyond those required by law, education and training; professional discipline; and protection for the public against loss, negligence and dishonesty.

These services will be destroyed if Bills are brought before Parliament which establish a second grade of performance, not even professional in character, which does not provide the skills and protection to which the public is entitled. There is much complaint about the delays in concluding conveyancing transactions, which waste time and money. A major reason for delay is not the dilatoriness of the lawyers but the difficulty encountered by buyers in finding the cash while they sell an existing property.

Very often there is a long chain of transactions all of which are held in abeyance until a particular transaction can be brought to a conclusion.

Nothing will eradicate these problems. Nevertheless, a much-needed overhaul of the conveyancing process is long overdue. The legal profession has, I think, been slow to respond to changes which are necessary, but in its own limited field it is now taking vigorous steps for improvement.

But it would be wrong to load the whole, or even the major part, of the blame on the legal profession. Many others involved in the conveyancing process have, for years past, been equally sluggish, including Government departments, local authorities, building societies and others.

All of them should work together on a concerted plan. This was examined with care and set out in painstaking detail in the report of the Royal Commission on Legal Services, which was published in 1979. It would, I suggest, be a convenient starting point for the reforms which are necessary for the public benefit.

Yours faithfully,
BENSON,
House of Lords.

From Mr T. P. FitzPatrick
Sir, For years we lawyers have toasted the home-made will maker as a fruitful source of work and income.

I shall look forward to raising many a fine bumper in the direction of Mr Austin Mitchell and his licensed conveyancers.

Yours faithfully,
T. P. FITZPATRICK,
T. P. FitzPatrick & Co.,
Meads House,
70 Station Road,
Burgess Hill,
West Sussex.
December 8

Calke Abbey

From Mr A. M. Alexander
Sir, It seems curious to embellish your second leader (December 9) but despite the protestations in the Commons by the minister on Wednesday the trustees of Calke Abbey have only words to add to their already generous and complete offer to the nation.

The responsibility for this state of affairs lies with the Secretary of State for the Environment, not the Treasury as Mr Cormack implied (December 7). The necessary funds would be available if Mr Jenkins exercised his discretion.

The minister's assertion that these still remain unconsidered alternatives is illusory. Other solutions have been exhaustively considered by the owners and the National Trust, and others over the last two years. Mr Macfarlane in the Commons took up Lord Charteris's suggestion (December 7) of a "Heritage Lottery Fund" and the trustees, and the National Trust, are consulting, yet again, with any other interested parties to try to find the £7.5m required.

The Historic Buildings Council fully supports the attempts being made to save the property. The

Harpur-Crewe trustees have offered her property, at a cost to themselves of an additional £2.9m in tax and £1m in interest, whilst the negotiations continue, so much for the "advantage" to them and the contribution expected of them.

What then is Mr Macfarlane's "significant contribution"?

He is prepared to permit the trustees their statutory right to hand over the heritage property, but not its support, in lieu of tax; thus he denies the nation the benefit of such exercise - it seems as a punishment because, as you indicate, the trustees did not practice tax avoidance to the tune of the £7.5m, which could have saved Calke and made them, not the nation, that much richer.

It is not ironic that on the same day that a West German local authority pays £8m to save a single book as part of its heritage, the Secretary of State cannot let the taxpayer hand over a slightly lesser sum to save a vital piece of England's heritage of bringing delight and employment to an area where all agree, including the Government's advisers on such matters, that action is necessary?

Yours faithfully,
A. M. ALEXANDER,
Rovys Barfield, Solicitors,
2 Crane Court, EC4,
December 9.

Sentences on Turks

From Professor Emeritus Peter Worsley and others
Sir, Over the last two years more than 600 academics have been sacked from Turkish universities; the establishment of a Higher Education Council has enabled President Evren to appoint university rectors and disperse with university autonomy and laws.

Now (The Times, November 15), after an 18-month trial, savage sentences have been passed on a number of academics and intellectuals prominent in Turkey's peace movement.

It is extraordinary that in a member state of Nato and the Council of Europe distinguished professors such as Melih Tumer, Dean of the Political Science Faculty of Istanbul University, should be sentenced to eight years' hard labour and 32 months' exile, and Metin Ozek, of the university's Medical Faculty, to five years' hard labour and 20 months' exile, for expressing views similar to those voiced by CND in this country.

We are equally concerned about the plight of Dr Gecayci Shayan, Senior Lecturer in Public Administration; Dr Haluk Tosun, Head of the Department of Electrical Engineering at the Middle East Technical University; and Dr Eni Atabek, President of the Turkish Medical Association.

Mr Ali Sirmen, foreign affairs columnist of the prestigious daily newspaper, Cumhuriyet and author of several books on Turkish foreign policy, has also been sentenced to eight years' hard labour. The

prisoners are being kept 18 to a cell, in cells measuring 20 square metres, without heating or ventilation. We find it utterly repugnant that these distinguished and elderly people should be sentenced for "crimes of thought" under articles 141 and 142 of the Turkish Penal Code, which were borrowed from Mussolini's Italy.

Whatever one's views on the means of achieving world peace, these activities surely cannot be construed as "against the national interest" and tantamount to treason.

The North Atlantic Treaty, to which Turkey is a signatory, commits its members to "safeguard the freedom, common heritage and civilisation of their peoples, founded on the principles of democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law". The verdicts passed by the military tribunal in Istanbul cast doubt over the validity of the claim that Turkey has returned to democracy.

Yours etc.
PETER WORSLEY (University of Manchester),
DAVID BEETHAM (University of Leeds),
T. B. BOTTOMORE (University of Sussex),
BERNARD CRICK (University of London),
GERAINT PARRY (University of Manchester),
RAYMOND WILLIAMS (University of Cambridge),
ALAN WILSON (University of Leeds).

30 Maudslough Road,
Heaton Mersey,
Stockport,
Cheshire.
December 6.

Going it alone

From Professor Alan Thompson
Sir, Peace is not disarmament. It was the recognition of this simple fact which led Mr Attlee's Labour Government, in 1949, to join with other countries in establishing Nato - perhaps the most outstanding voluntary decision ever made by sovereign nations determined to defend their freedom.

Today the nations of Nato represent one of the few effective regional defence groupings which genuinely mirror (with perhaps one or two qualifications) a common heritage of democratic government and shared values in the pursuit of freedom. This is in marked contrast to the UN where, out of 158 members, barely 40 subscribe to the principles of parliamentary democracy and human rights and whose delegates defend democracy in name at the General Assembly while denying it in substance to their own citizens.

Of course the world needs the UN: equally it needs smaller regional groupings (as recognised under article 51) which can contribute to stability and security in their own areas. If another world war occurs it is more likely to be ignited in Europe than elsewhere. Hence the need for the firm, resolute pursuit of peace in the European theatre.

The collapse of Nato would be fraught with danger to world peace and I cannot believe that any of our political parties represented in Parliament (as distinct from the CND) could contemplate such a possibility.

As someone who was recently privileged to meet the Russian leaders attending the Edinburgh conference (including two Russian generals) I do not for a moment believe that the USSR is plotting immediate war against us. There is a mood of cautious realism, coupled, I believe, with genuine fears inherited from the brutal and unprovoked invasion of their territory in World

Need for openness in public life

From Mr Alex Hervey
Sir, I used to work for the Civil Service. I welcome Sir Douglas Wass's call in the Reith lectures for open government. But the issue is wider than he suggests.

In the new year the LECC (London Electricity Consultative Council) will publish "Making the London Electricity Board more publicly accountable", which includes detail on consumer access to LEB information. I am glad to say that it records the progress the board has taken to become more open. But the LEB is unusual in this.

In 1972 Nationalized Industries Relations with the Public (Cmd 5067) recommended a greater exchange of information between the Central Electricity Generating Board and consumer councils. It advocated fuller dialogue on the implications for consumers of bulk tariffs and investment plans. The CEBG said that it accepted the proposals.

It did very little for the next 10 years. And this month the Chairman of the CEBG was party to a document stating: "It is accepted that it is inappropriate for the board's capital investment programme to be made available to the Electricity Consumers Council". Yet the board now has a duty under the Energy Act, 1983, to inform the ECC of its "general plans and arrangements for performing its functions".

French press ruling

From Professor R. Errera
Sir, Re your editorial, "Stop Press" (December 12), it would be inappropriate for me to comment on the merits of the dispute involving the NGA. However, I might interest your readers to know how an analogous problem was dealt with in France.

The Constitutional Council has the power, upon a reference by 60 members of the National Assembly or of the Senate for example, to decide whether statutes are in accordance with the French Constitution, after a statute has been passed by Parliament and before it is promulgated.

In October, 1982, the Constitutional Council decided that a statutory provision conferring a

statutory term of art that covers its capital programme.

Why cannot the British public know the plans of a corporation it owns, and which is supposed to operate *pro bono publico*? It is easy to find out such details about privately owned American utilities: you ask and you receive.

The ECC itself, nominally the consumer's watchdog, is little better. The first formal motion it passed on becoming a statutory body was to exclude the press and public from its meetings. It spent a third of its next meeting berating me for refusing to accept its confidentiality proposals. At its third meeting it refused to associate itself with the 1984 campaign on Freedom of Information. And at its fourth meeting, yesterday, it declined to press the CEBG in a forthright manner for the information to which it is legally entitled: it was more concerned to get on with the industry than to get on with its job.

Secrecy is an endemic disease of British public life. It breeds the sloppiness and trimming that characterise so much behaviour. We need openness in public life to discipline performance and make it accountable.

ALEX HENNEY, Chairman,
London Electricity Consultative Council,
Newspaper House,
Great North Street, EC4,
December 8.

complete immunity upon trade unions, workers and shop stewards arising out of industrial disputes (except for criminal conduct) was unconstitutional. The basis for the decision was that such an immunity was contrary to the constitutional principle of equality before the law.

The inequality was twofold: in conferring an immunity upon particular groups and individuals; in denying legal redress to the victims of tortious conduct who, as the Constitutional Council observed, could well be workers and members or other unions.

Yours faithfully,
R. ERRERA,
Visiting Professor of French Law,
Faculty of Laws,
University College London,
4-8 Endsleigh Gardens, WCI,
December 13.

Oxford admissions

From Professor H. Lloyd-Jones
Sir, Professor Ronald Mellor (December 6), referring to a letter in the *New York Times*, published in 1980, in which I ventured to suggest that President Reagan was not a stupid man, writes that I "assured its readers that European intellectuals had the highest regard for the mental capacities of candidate Reagan". So it is not surprising that his comment on my recent letter (November 14) about admissions to Oxford needs some elucidation.

I was concerned to point out that any change in the admission procedures of important universities results in changes in the schools. Since the fifties, when all academic testing in the United States was committed to the College Entrance Examination Board, with standardised tests (even before the invention of the computer) graded mechanically, the universities have reported a decline in certain basic skills, especially in the writing of English. Also, since there is no longer any common subject matter in the school curricula, one can no longer assume that students who have done three years of high school English will have studied Shakespeare, much less predict which of his works they are likely to have read.

During the last few years, the scores registered on the CEEB tests have fallen: universities are finding that they must make up for what the schools do not teach by putting in core curricula, as at Harvard, or required courses in expository writing, as at Wellesley.

When, after the Second World War, American universities dropped Latin as an entrance requirement, Latin in the schools declined. Later, when many universities dropped their language requirement, language programmes in the schools were much reduced.

If Oxford examines candidates for entrance one year earlier, school curricula are likely to be adjusted; if it abandons them altogether, or offers alternative routes, allowing A levels to substitute wholly or in part for entrance examinations, Oxford will no longer be able to ensure that candidates for entrance possess certain kinds of knowledge.

American universities are obliged to take what they are offered, which can be of high quality, but varies greatly; Oxford will then be in a similar position and will have to deal with entrants in ways which it does not at present reckon with and to reduce its own curriculum to suit entrants of a lower standard.

I am, Sir, yours etc.
HUGH LLOYD-JONES,
Christ Church,
Oxford,
December 6.

suggests (December 9) and indeed as the Parisians have been doing for the last 20 years.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT HOLDEN, Chairman,
South East Chapter Landscape Institute,
3 Merrick Square, SE1,
December 11.

The name's the thing

From Mr Andrew MacLean Watt
Sir, I'm sorry *The Times* felt it appropriate to be so cute and condescending about the Japanese use of English-derived or English-sounding brand names (Ross Davies, December 2).

It is true that many sound strange to a native English speaker, but our feelings are irrelevant to Japanese consumers. (It's quite another matter of course, in export markets.)

Pockari Sweat does indeed seem a bold name for a soft drink. But it has been one of the most successful new products in years.

Yours truly
ANDREW MACLEAN WATT
Watt International,
22 Great Marlborough Street, W1,
December 6.

What Keynes meant

From Professor Richard Rose
Sir, Professor Silberston (December 3) has done a useful service in reminding us of the context in which Keynes wrote: "In the long run we are all dead."

Perhaps another reader would like to confirm whether, when Keynes first said this in Cambridge, a colleague responded: "No, in the long run, each of us is dead."

Yours sincerely,
RICHARD ROSE, Director,
Centre for the Study of Public Policy,
University of Strathclyde,
McCauley Building,
16 Richmond Street,
Glasgow,
December 7.

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

British Airways in the shadow of Telecom

By any standard, accounting or otherwise, Lord King, Mr Colin Marshall, Mr Gordon Dunlop and the rest of the senior management team have done a remarkably fine job putting British Airways into commercial and financial shape. Lord King was installed by Mrs Thatcher with one overriding purpose: to privatise BA.

The job has taken much longer than he thought, but if it is true, as BA and its financial advisers insist, that BA is ready for take-off early next autumn, he is entitled to feel slightly miffed by the Government's consuming obsession with selling 49 per cent of British Telecom. Telecom has been given the autumn 1984 slot and BA has to wait until 1985.

The attraction for the Treasury of £4 billion from Telecom is not hard to understand. Nor are the risks. Opposition to the Telecom sale is fierce, notably among private sector companies.

In addition the marketing of an issue of this size for a corporation of Telecom's complexity will test every nerve and sinew of Telecom's bankers, brokers and professional marketers.

The crux for potential investors, British and American, will be the pricing formula the Government adopts to protect Telecom's customers from abuse of its monopoly power. The fear is not that users of the telephone network will be overcharged; it is that interfering governments, with an eye on the telephone vote, will keep charges down.

If that fear is realized - precedents in nationalized industry pricing argue that it will - BT would be valued in the market as a dull utility and not as a high technology growth stock which everyone would want to hold.

The schedule for the Telecom sale is extremely tight and it still might not be met. The sale, though on time, might be a frost. The BA sale might have to be put back further and in a volatile business such as airlines, the commercial weather can change rapidly.

The date for the company's transfer to the status of public limited company (plc) has been set for April 1, 1984, a date not meant presumably as a joke, and the pension fund problem that raises its head in every privatization issue appears to be resolved.

The two important issues of BA's dominance of international routes and the



Colin Marshall: management team successful

shape of its balance sheet have still not been resolved. On the balance sheet, Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Transport Secretary, and the Treasury are still keeping their options open.

BA's profits this year and next are capable of paying off up to say £300m of its outstanding £950m of debt by the time of flotation. Mr Ridley has dropped hints that BA can make further contributions with the sale of assets, including possibly its helicopter and Airtronic divisions.

Revaluation of assets on the positive side of the balance sheet would also help to make the debt figure more manageable and provide BA with an operational balance sheet. In the last analysis there will be a trade-off between the debt and the proceeds of the flotation. BA looks like being valued at £800m or so on the market, but net proceeds from the sale of shares will be much lower than this figure implies, whatever debt restructuring scheme is adopted.

As for British Caledonian's cheeky, but politically astute bid for some of BA's assets, the Government has neatly dodged the issue by referring the matter to the Civil Aviation Authority, the statutory authority which issues licences. It will produce a statement on the principles underlying the allocation of routes in about six months.

Lord King will resist any efforts to strip some of his prized routes away but do not be surprised if the outcome of the review is a "spontaneous" decision by BA to unload some assets in the direction of its smaller rivals.

Time the Eagle was landed

Speculation over the outcome of the bidding for Eagle Star was reaching fever pitch last night. As this morning's 9.30 deadline for Allianz Versicherungs to beat the 660p per share offered by BAT loomed nearer, the market was saying that Allianz had negotiated to sell its 30 per cent stake in Eagle for £8 a share.

All sides quickly denied the rumour. Sir Denis Mountain, chairman of Eagle Star, who had most to gain if it proved true, was one of the first to say that although he had heard the market gossip, he did not believe there was any truth in it.

The Takeover Panel was also adamant that Allianz would come back with improved terms, and spent much of yesterday afternoon agreeing the wording of today's announcement from Allianz. Despite the denials, Eagle's shares rose by

22p to close at 719p yesterday. But those closest to the battle continued to debate what the Allianz offer terms will be.

Allianz has four options. To come back at a few pence more, which would mean a bid of between 661p and 670p per share. To produce a blockbuster - a winning bid - in the region of £7 per share. To produce a bid which is conditional upon more information from Eagle Star. To produce a bid which is conditional upon the agreement of the Eagle board.

Whatever the outcome, the show has gone on for too long. The future ownership of Eagle Star must be decided quickly to protect the interests of policyholders and employees who may be tempted to desert the company, thus destroying the successful business which has tempted such takeover interest.

Pound plunges again as oil price doubts intensify

By Peter Wilson-Smith and Jonathan Davis

The inexorable rise of the dollar combined with speculation over lower North Sea oil prices pushed sterling to new depths against the American currency yesterday.

For the first time the pound fell below \$1.42 and it also weakened against other leading currencies, closing 0.5 down at 82.0 on its trade-weighted value.

Most of the pound's recent weakness has reflected the rise in the dollar. Other important currencies have suffered likewise. But yesterday's reports of a cut in the British National Oil Corporation's prices, coming at a time when oil jitters have made sterling vulnerable, led to heavy selling in the afternoon.

At one stage the pound touched \$1.4175 before recovering slightly to close in London down 1.15 cents at \$1.4195. However it was soon down to \$1.4170 in New York trade.

The dollar rebounded after an early setback on the big rise in US retail sales in November which dealers interpreted as another sign of the rapid US growth which could encourage the Federal Reserve to tighten reins on monetary growth.

Renewed tension in the Middle East fuelled its rise as the dollar reached record heights against the franc and mark. Towards the London close the dollar was pressing against the DM270 level although it closed 1.5 pence higher on the day.

Sterling ended a Pfenning weaker at DM3.9325 and some dealers believe it could weaken further against the strong dollar, a view shared by Mr David Morrison of Simon & Coates, the stockbrokers. He said the twin pressures of oil price fears and demand for dollars could push sterling as low as \$1.38. There was no sign of any

significant Bank of England intervention yesterday. The Treasury is believed to be unwilling to risk frittering away reserves in attempts to support the currency beyond the usual smoothing.

The British National Oil Corporation confirmed that it had opened discussions yesterday with oil companies about the price of North Sea oil, following last week's Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries meeting in Geneva.

Industry reports suggested that US oil companies were likely to put pressure on BNOC, the traditional price-setter for North Sea oil, to cut the reference price of \$30 a barrel by between \$1 and \$1.50 from January 1.

Such a move would not only put further downward pressure on sterling, but would also raise the prospect of retaliatory action by Opec, as happened

this year, with the associated threat of a price-cutting war and a sharp drop in prices.

BP, Shell and Esso, the most important producers of North Sea oil, are asking a more cautious line however, and the possibility of anything more than a marginal drop in the price of North Sea oil is considered remote by most industry analysts.

Shell UK confirmed that it was talking to BNOC about prices for the first quarter of next year, but said: "It is not our intention to press for a reduction in price."

Esso also said that it had not made any request.

Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, is keeping an eye on developments, but the official line is still that the government will leave it to BNOC to settle prices in response to market forces.

Inchcape in £36m cash takeover

By Jonathan Clare

Inchcape is buying Transcontinental Services Group's trade service division for £36m in cash. Transcontinental intends to use this to expand the financial services field and the board says that it has already examined several businesses.

The trade services division became a subsidiary of Transcontinental more than a year ago, and represents the bulk of the company's interests. Transcontinental subsequently made several acquisitions for division in the fields of loss adjusting, cargo inspection and non-destructive testing.

Transcontinental is a holding company incorporated in the Netherlands Antilles in September last year to acquire Esperanza International Service. Board members include Lord Kissin and Mr Jacob Rothschild.

Companies in the trade services division include Caleb Brett, Graham Miller, Matthews-Daniel and Gellatly Harney. The division made profits of £4.3m on a turnover of £70.4m in the year to last March and has net assets of £12.8m.

The companies acquired by Inchcape are essentially those which formed the old Esperanza group.

The deal will almost double the net assets of Transcontinental from 111p per share to 208p per share. Transcontinental has a cash balance of £20m and a financial services division which acts as an investment management and trust administration business.

Output falters but trend is upwards

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Industrial activity faltered in October, but production was still 1.5 per cent higher than a year earlier according to figures from the Central Statistical Office.

After showing a revised 0.7 per cent rise in September, industrial production slipped by a provisional 0.5 per cent in October. The index of manufacturing output fell by 0.3 per cent, to stand 1.2 per cent above a year ago.

The monthly figures for industrial production have been consistently erratic and have been revised frequently. Over a three-month period, which officials believe gives a better indication of the underlying trend, the figures suggest that activity is still rising slowly, but the recovery remains patchy.

In the three months to October industrial production was 1 per cent above the level of manufacturing output, while oil

and gas extraction showed a 6 per cent rise.

Figures yesterday from the Department of the Environment in the construction industry reveal a 7 per cent rise in output in the third quarter of this year over the second quarter.

The latest industrial production figures are unlikely to resolve the debate over the durability of the economic recovery. However, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor yesterday sought to reassure critics about the accuracy of the Government's autumn forecasts.

He compared the Government's forecast for growth with the result in a written parliamentary answer, which showed that the Government had underestimated the drop in gross national product in 1980, but had underestimated the growth in the economy last year and this.

Clausen plea to Reagan

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Mr A. W. "Tom" Clausen, President of the World Bank, has sent an urgent letter to President Reagan asking him to join 32 other nations in providing increased development funds to the poorest countries.

Mr Clausen appealed to the President after the collapse of negotiations in Paris on an increased level of funding for the World Bank's International Development Agency (IDA).

turned aside the appeals of 32 other nations to provide a total of \$12 billion £5.4 billion in replenishment funds for the IDA. It said that it could not get that amount through Congress.

Instead, the US said it would cut its own commitment to 25 per cent of the total or \$750 m over three years which would result in a more restrictive overall level of \$9 billion.

At the Paris meetings, the US

Shorts set to win £33m deal

By Edward Townsend

Shorts of Belfast, the aircraft and missile manufacturer and Northern Ireland's biggest employer, seems certain to win a £33m contract to supply the US Air Force with 18 transport aircraft.

The order, expected to be placed in the New Year, has been negotiated by Shorts in the face of strong opposition from the Irish National Caucus, a US-based anti-British organization led by a Roman Catholic priest, Father Sean McManus.

He has claimed persistently that Shorts has operated "flagrant discriminatory employment practices" by not hiring Catholics.

The allegation was once again dismissed yesterday by Sir Philip Foreman, the company's chairman and managing director.

It is understood that Shorts is favourite to win the order, with the remaining contender, Cass of Spain, unable to meet the Americans' exacting requirements.

Orders for a further 48 aircraft could follow in 1985-86 and while this would provide much-needed work for the Belfast factory, the long-term opportunities arising from being a recognized supplier to the USAF are regarded within the company as being of particular importance.

Sir Philip also disclosed that due to rising demand for the company's products, recruitment of an additional 200 workers would begin in the New Year to take the total labour force to about 6,400.

Confidence crumbling

Fears of a lower North Sea oil price and a crumbling pound sent investors scurrying for cover yesterday as confidence in the stock market continued to crumble.

The FT Index closed at its low for the day 3.1 down at 750.6 as the pound lost more than a cent on the foreign exchange to close at a new record low of \$1.4190.

Investors showed little inclination to establish new positions just two days into the long three week Christmas account and dealers were last night taking a gloomy view for the rest of 1983, looking for prices to drift gently lower on lack of support.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 750.6 down 3.1
FT 100: 82.43 up 0.08
FT All Shares: 483.50 down 0.85
Birmingham 20,855
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 95.33 down 0.08
New York Dow Jones Average: 1259.65 down 1.94
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 9,385.56 down 6.90
Hongkong Hang Seng Index: 862.81 up 6.07

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling 1.4195 down 1.15
Index 82.0 down 0.5
DM 3.9325 down 0.0100
FF 11.9925 down 0.00125
Yen 335.50 down 3.25
Dollar Index 130.8 up 0.4
DM 2.7652 up 0.0152
NEW YORK CLOSE
Sterling \$1.4170
Dollar DM 2.7680
INTERNATIONAL
ECU/£ 0.75342
SDR/£ 0.725869

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9 1/2
Discount market loans week fixed 8 1/2 3 month interbank 9 1/2-9 3/4
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10 1/2-10 3/4
3 month DM 6 1/2-6 3/4
3 month FR F13 1/2-13 3/4
US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9 1/2
Treasury 9 1/2-9 3/4 long bond

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$389.75 pm \$389.20
close \$389.00-\$389.75
(\$274.00-\$274.50)
New York (latest): \$389.50
Kruggerand (per coin): \$400.50-402.20 (\$282.25-283.25)
Sovereigns (new): \$91.25-\$92.25 (\$64.25-\$65.00)
Excludes VAT

NEWS IN BRIEF

Losses cut by £700,000 at IC Gas

IC Gas yesterday reported first-half pre-tax losses to the end of September down £700,000 at just under £1.1m. However, the company expected, a boost in the second-half from the rapid build-up in production at the Maureen North Sea oil field in which its stake is about to rise to 11.5 per cent.

Volume rates of its offshore calor gas at the end of last month were stronger than in the same period last year and these are expected to lift the second-half figures.

● Henry Aeschbacher Holdings, British merchant bank, is expanding in the US. It has bought a 10-man consultancy headed by Mr Christopher Shaw to advise on mergers and acquisitions in New York. The service will be based on a databank developed since 1969 and owned by Thelma, a Liechtenstein-based charitable trust. Mr Shaw has a five-year contract at \$75,000 a year plus expenses.

● The Dow Jones industrial average was down 4.07 to 1,257.51 yesterday. Declines led advances 509=396 among the 1,371 issues crossing the tape.

● McCormac, the security and specialist printers, raised pre-tax profits 18 per cent in the year to last September to £7.2m. Turnover rose from £100m to £111m. Current trading looks good and the group is paying an 11 per cent dividend increase to 10p per share.

● Investors' Notebook page 17
● Seaks, the Scottish hotel company, has bought the Great Tree Top Hotel in Aberdeen from Bass to replace the Royal Darroch, recently destroyed by fire. Great Tree Tops is bigger than the Royal Darroch but has a similar three-star rating.

Slough announces terms

By Our Financial Staff

Slough Estates' takeover terms for Allnatt London Properties and Guildhall Property will create an industrial property company with a market value of between £325m and £350m and a portfolio worth £650m.

The terms were announced yesterday, just a day after the surprise news that the three property companies were talking again. Negotiations had been publicly dropped two weeks before.

Yesterday the participants said that the deal was a merger of the three, but analysts said that it looked more like a merger on Slough's terms.

Slough is offering 185 of its shares for every 100 in Allnatt,

equivalent to more than 220p per share. The terms for the much smaller Guildhall are equivalent to about 150p a share. But there are attractive cash or loanstock alternatives which the City believes most outside shareholders would accept.

They are equivalent to 245p per share for Allnatt stock and 162p per Guildhall share and compare with a combined net asset value for both companies of 291p. The two are controlled by two shareholder-directors, Mr Leslie Smith and Mr Ronald Diggins, who are taking Slough shares.

Together with family interests, the two control about 60 per cent of Allnatt's shares.

Targets are Saudi Arabia, Iran, Libya and Algeria

UK aims at 25% export jump

By John Lawless

Britain has adopted a new business strategy in the Middle East which aims to increase exports, now running at more than £6 billion a year, by 25 per cent.

The plan will be outlined tomorrow to industrialists and bankers when they meet at the Confederation of British Industry headquarters in London.

The Government is ready to commit far more of its financial resources to back-up services for exporters in four target markets: Saudi Arabia, Iran, Libya and Algeria.

Although it recognizes the political sensitivities of grouping those countries together - especially because of Saudi fears about the possible spread of the Iranian revolution - Department of Trade and Industry specialists believe the four offer the best prospects.

A key part of the strategy is to raise substantially the level of British industrial investment in



Mr Norman Tebbit: emphasis on joint ventures.

Saudi Arabia. This plan was finally agreed after Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, visited the country at the beginning of this month.

Saudi Arabia will be the subject of tomorrow's CBI

Budgen bids £12.8m cash for Bishop's

By Our Financial Staff

Booker McConnell, which operates the Budgens supermarket chain, has emerged as the bidder for Bishop's Group, formerly Bishop's Stores, nearly six months after news of an approach became public.

Booker, which is involved in food, engineering and publishing is offering £12.8m in cash with a loanstock alternative.

The terms have been accepted by the Bishop's directors and shareholders who control 61 per cent of the ordinary shares and 51 per cent of "A" shares.

Bishop's and Budgen are not direct competitors in any area and Booker expected both to benefit from economies of scale.

Mr James Gulliver's Argyle Group, which operates the Presto supermarket chain, was also said to have been interested in Bishop's Stores.

The terms are 291p cash for each ordinary share and 221p cash for each "A" share.

The loanstock alternative is 9.5 per cent loan notes 1989, and the terms will appear in the formal offer document.

conference, which will be chaired by a Midland Bank International director, Lord Selous, the Government's chief business adviser on Middle East affairs.

Private meetings with key industrialists are being arranged for the New Year. Mr Tebbit and his officials will stress the need to have at least two joint venture factories from each British industrial sector established in Saudi Arabia - although particular emphasis is to be put on petrochemical companies setting up downstream operations.

Senior Saudi ministers repeatedly told Mr Tebbit that their own private sector will increasingly provide the motor for economic growth. And they gave a warning that, with the big construction phase of development now over, future orders will be directed first to Saudi companies, then to joint ventures with foreigners and only as a last resort to overseas suppliers.

Points from the Interim Report

Promising Developments in Oil Operations

* Recent developments in oil operations will significantly improve second half results.

* Production from the Maureen oil-field started in September. Acquisition of additional holding in Maureen from BET and purchase of unit in BP's Forties field will both be effective on January 1, 1984.

* Results improved at Calor Group and in Oil Operations Group at interim stage. CompAir results adversely affected by intensified price competition, particularly in construction sector.

* Interim dividend increase of one-third (from 3p to 4p) reflects intention to reduce disparity between mid-term and final payments.

| (All figures in '000's) | Half year to 30.9.83 (unaudited) | Half year to 30.9.82 (unaudited) | Year to 31.3.83 (audited) |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Turnover | 204,704 | 183,744 | 486,708 |
| Trading profit | 12,967 | 11,681 | 55,597 |
| Depreciation | (12,057) | (10,648) | (22,558) |
| Income from affiliated companies | - | - | 4,104 |
| Share of profits of associated companies | 3,085 | 3,117 | 10,700 |
| Income from general investments | 618 | 490 | 797 |
| Interest (net) | (5,679) | (6,382) | (13,200) |
| (Loss)/Profit before taxation | (1,066) | (1,772) | 38,500 |
| Taxation | (761) | (882) | (6,082) |
| (Loss)/Profit after taxation | (1,817) | (2,654) | 32,418 |
| Minority interests | (172) | (74) | (2,842) |
| Extraordinary item | - | - | (428) |
| (Loss)/Profit attributable to IC Gas | (1,989) | (2,728) | 28,148 |

Figures for the half-year provide little guidance to the outcome for the year because of seasonal influences on the Group's activities and because at that stage no contribution from certain major elements of the Group's investment in Belgium is included.

IC Gas Group comprises: CALOR GROUP - sale and distribution of Calor Gas and appliances; COMPAIR GROUP - manufacture and supply of compressed air equipment; OIL OPERATIONS GROUP - gas and oil exploration and production; BELGIAN GROUP - investments in electricity and gas industries and in Petrofina S.A.

ICGas

Copies of the full Interim Statement can be obtained from:
Imperial Continental Gas Association
c/o Messrs. Haskins & Sells
1, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK

Overseas boost doubles McCorquodale earnings

Joint ventures in South Africa and Brazil have again provided a significant improvement in the profits of McCorquodale, the security and specialist printer.

The contribution from associated companies more than doubled to £2.4m, helping the group to an 18 per cent rise in pretax profits to £7.3m in the 12 months to the end of September.

The figures also include what McCorquodale describes as an important but unqualified contribution from two American companies in which the company took an interest during the year.

Given the strong overseas performance, Britain, which accounts for 65 per cent of group profits, looks as though it had a flat year.

However, £600,000 has been charged above the line on trading profits in Britain to pay for redundancies.

And the company says that there are now mildly encouraging signs that markets for its business have been picking up.

So with the help of the overseas companies - which the group would like to represent 40 per cent of its pretax profits in about five years - McCorquodale notched up its seventh successive increase at the pretax level.

At the bottom line, the group has come out £55,000 in the black after revaluing overseas assets and deducting exchange gains and losses. Last year's comparable figure was a deficit of £906,000.

As a result retained earnings after paying an 11 per cent increase in the total dividend, came out at £3m, against £1.9m last year.

However, despite the positive flow, expansion plans and capital spending is beginning to reflect in higher borrowings on the balance sheet.

In 1981-82 bank loans and overdrafts rose from £4.1m to

£7.2m, which represented a 39 per cent gearing ratio. This year, the net debt to equity ratio has increased to 44 per cent.

McCorquodale has spent £10m on capital investment this year, and expects to spend £6m in its present financial year.

The shares yesterday eased 2p to 281p. The price has already discounted a profits increase and should have some way to climb given the present undemanding price earnings ratio.

Intasun

The holiday travel price war is about market share as numbers of travellers decline. Interim figures from Mr Harry Goodman's Intasun reflect the company's success in eroding the position of its main competitors, Thomson, the biggest, and Horizon, third after Intasun.

Pretax profits, from which the winter loss figures are subtracted, show a firm rise to £20m on turnover up from £104m to £140m.

The company looks like a group denying that a price war is taking place but gearing up for defence: cash holdings of £46m, no debt and buying in business. It held back its 1984 holiday brochure to prevent the competition from improving its 9 per cent price cuts.

A new division catering to the lowest end of the market was established and the North East-based Airways Holidays was bought. Mr Goodman continues to attack the problem of maintaining business in the winter and by early this month had raised bookings 50 per cent.

But that will not reduce winter losses. Their are expected to exceed last year's £1.5m due to the summer acquisition and the introduction of the budget Lancaster Holidays.

Mr Goodman's forte is travel and, not surprisingly, the travel division carried a record

562,000 passengers though more importantly it increased the load factor from 93.4 per cent to 95.8 per cent.

Mr Goodman expects to increase market share next year from 14 per cent to 16 per cent and set a growth rate of 20 per cent. He claims the 9 per cent price cuts are balanced by currency gains and would not harm profits.

Mr Goodman said his "gut feeling" was that next year would be the best for three or four years. On that basis the interim dividend increase from 1.4p to 1.8p may not be overly generous. But if Mr Goodman's forecasts for next summer are borne out by bookings over the next three months the final is likely to be a pleasant surprise.

Meyer Int.

The results from Meyer International were bang on market expectations and confirm the high hopes broker analysts had for the reorganized and rationalized businesses of the leading timber groups, Meyer and International, which merged 18 months ago.

Pretax profits rose from £6.3m, made at the bottom of the timber trading cycle, to £16.7m on a turnover up from £261.6m to £280m. The interim is increased 10 per cent from 1.50p to 1.65p while earnings per share climb from 4.6p to 10.6p.

The company could not fully quantify the cost benefits from the merger but estimated them at about £3m to £4m.

The shares still reflect a very cautious, possibly unjustified, attitude to performance at 152p yielding 3.5p but is a very substantial discount on the sector as a whole and, given that the second-half is expected to perform as well as the first, there seems plenty of leeway for an increase in share price.

Economic commentary: Tim Congdon looks at the effect of lifting exchange controls

Why Britain's foreign nest-egg quadrupled

The North Sea nest-egg: How Britain's foreign assets have increased since 1979

| | Holdings at end of 4th qtr 1979 | 1st qtr 1983 | Change over the period |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Other financial institutions | 10,080 | 33,174 | |
| Overseas assets | 1,742 | 2,525 | |
| Overseas liabilities | 8,338 | 30,649 | +22,310 |
| Industrial and commercial companies | 34,547 | 56,184 | |
| Overseas assets | 29,171 | 39,380 | |
| Overseas liabilities | 3,476 | 18,804 | +15,328 |
| Personal sector | 3,311 | 7,365 | +4,054 |
| Overseas assets | | | |
| Non-bank private sector as a whole | 48,038 | 58,743 | |
| Overseas assets | 38,812 | 41,905 | |
| Overseas liabilities | 17,126 | 56,538 | +39,712 |

Source: Financial Statistics, September 1983

could make additions in only two ways - by buying foreign securities from other British residents and by borrowing abroad to finance purchases. Not surprisingly, they had a strong pent-up demand for overseas assets.

The situation had changed radically at the end of the first quarter of this year. Other financial institutions had overseas assets of £33,174m and overseas liabilities of only £2,525m. Over the three years since the removal of exchange controls their net foreign assets had climbed by more than £22,000m to £30,649m.

Much of the increase reflected the large sums sent abroad after October 1979. Britain's portfolio investment overseas was £3,150m in 1980, £4,150m in 1981, £6,170m in 1982 and £1,760m in the first quarter of this year, a total of more than £15,000m, with non-bank financial institutions probably responsible for not less than £12,000m.

Clearly, there is a gap - of about £10,000m - between the increase in the value of institutions' foreign portfolios and their new investment. The gap measures the capital gains achieved for the customers, the British public, over the period.

This £10,000m addition to the nation's wealth is welcome, not only because it is a tidy sum of money, but also because it has not required any serious productive effort. Debtors countries around the world, should be drooling with envy.

Of course, some of the gains would have happened anyway. If exchange control had continued and fund managers had stayed in domestic markets, there would have been capital appreciation on the securities held at the end of 1979. But the potential for gain was increased enormously by exchange control abolition. Indeed, the Government's timing seems in retrospect to have been very well judged.

In October 1979 the pound was riding high on the foreign exchanges. Although it became even more overvalued by January 1981, it has subsequently depreciated with few interruptions. The fall in the pound has increased the sterling value of foreign investments.

So fund managers acquired undervalued assets with overvalued pounds. It would be difficult to imagine a more ideal combination in international investment. The accumulation of a £30,000m overseas nest-egg by financial institutions and of a £60,000m nest-egg by the nation as a whole can be properly attributed to the correctness of official policy and to the astuteness of investors.

But honesty forces the recognition that neither would have counted for much without the bounty of the North Sea. Britain had a cumulative current account surplus between 1980 and 1982 of almost £15,000m. The surplus on oil over the period amounted to about

£8,000m. Without North Sea oil it is unlikely that so much foreign investment could have taken place. In effect, a lucky geographical accident has allowed Britain to resume its pre-1939 status of being a large international creditor.

There is a policy message here. In the late 1970s a public debate developed about the right use of North Sea tax revenues. There were two main schools of thought. One argued that the money should be directed to re-building Britain's "essential industrial base"; the other said that the North Sea bonus was temporary and should be directed to reducing the budget deficit.

The lobbyists for the "essential base" rarely explained in detail how the funds would be channelled to industries they deemed essential, but the rough idea seems to have been that the Government would set up a special national investment fund, which would make loans for the construction of blast-furnaces, aluminium smelters, shipyards, car plants and the like.

The assumption was presumably that these enterprises, no matter how dark, sordid and loss-making, would give a better eventual return than overseas portfolio investment.

It is surely fair comment that the managers of the pension funds, life offices and unit trusts have done a good job, while the intended recipients of national investment fund money have not. The fund managers' very profitable record has been possible because the Government used North Sea taxes to cut the budget deficit. It therefore had to sell less public sector debt, enabling institutional cash flow to be diverted to overseas equities and bonds.

In coming decades Britain's substantial foreign assets will yield a steadily increasing income which will protect the balance of payments as oil exports fall. There should no longer be any real debate about exchange controls and the deployment of North Sea revenues.

The author is economics partner of stockbroker, L. Messel & Co.

COMMODITIES

| LONDON COMMODITY PRICES | | LONDON METAL EXCHANGE | |
|----------------------------------|--------|-----------------------|--------|
| Coffee, Robusta in 50 lb per cwt | 100.00 | Copper, Cathodes | 100.00 |
| Coffee, Arabica in 50 lb per cwt | 110.00 | Aluminium, Cathodes | 100.00 |
| Wheat, Hard Red Winter | 120.00 | Lead, Cathodes | 100.00 |
| Wheat, Soft Red Winter | 110.00 | Zinc, Cathodes | 100.00 |
| Wheat, Durum | 100.00 | Nickel, Cathodes | 100.00 |
| Wheat, Atlas | 100.00 | Platinum, Cathodes | 100.00 |
| Wheat, Marquis | 100.00 | Palladium, Cathodes | 100.00 |
| Wheat, Red Fife | 100.00 | Rhodium, Cathodes | 100.00 |
| Wheat, White | 100.00 | Iridium, Cathodes | 100.00 |
| Wheat, Golden Wonder | 100.00 | Ruthenium, Cathodes | 100.00 |
| Wheat, Hereward | 100.00 | Technetium, Cathodes | 100.00 |
| Wheat, Marquis | 100.00 | Vanadium, Cathodes | 100.00 |
| Wheat, Red Fife | 100.00 | Chromium, Cathodes | 100.00 |
| Wheat, White | 100.00 | Manganese, Cathodes | 100.00 |
| Wheat, Golden Wonder | 100.00 | Iron, Cathodes | 100.00 |
| Wheat, Hereward | 100.00 | Steel, Cathodes | 100.00 |

MAJEDIE INVESTMENTS PLC

Year ended 30th September

| | 1983 | 1982 |
|----------------------|--------|-------|
| Profits after tax | 715 | 648 |
| Investment Income | 717 | 722 |
| Sales of investments | | |
| Earnings | | |
| Investment Income | 4.61 | 4.18 |
| Sales of investments | 4.62 | 4.66 |
| Dividend | 3.30 | 3.00 |
| Assets | 120.18 | 87.63 |

Meyer International INTERIM STATEMENT

Unaudited Group Results (on Historical Cost Basis)

| | 6 months to 30.9.83 | 6 months to 30.9.82 | Year to 31.3.83 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Turnover | 279,772 | 261,672 | 536,161 |
| Trading Profit | 19,388 | 11,372 | 29,196 |
| Profits on sales of tangible assets | 795 | 661 | 1,610 |
| Net interest payable | 20,183 | 12,033 | 30,806 |
| Share of results of related companies | 3,484 | 5,688 | 9,976 |
| Profit before taxation | 16,699 | 6,345 | 20,830 |
| Taxation | 225 | — | 767 |
| Profit after taxation | 16,924 | 6,345 | 21,597 |
| Extraordinary items (net) | 6,680 | 1,950 | 3,612 |
| Profit attributable to members | 10,244 | 4,395 | 14,985 |
| Earnings per Ordinary share | 167 | — | (4,698) |
| Profit attributable to members | 10,401 | 4,395 | 10,087 |
| Earnings per Ordinary share | 10.60 | 4.60 | 15.50 |
| Ordinary dividends - Cost | 1,591 | 1,446 | 3,615 |
| Amount per share | 1.55p | 1.50p | 3.75p |

The Chairman, Mr Ronald Groves, comments: Trading conditions for the first half year have been good. Although for the Construction Industry as a whole activity has remained dull the housebuilding sector, together with Repair, Maintenance and Improvement, has been much more active. Timber producers throughout the world have been increasing prices to restore profitability, resulting in rising import prices in the U.K. In these circumstances we have been able to improve trading margins. Manufacturing units have operated nearer to capacity. The contribution from overseas companies has been better with good results from North America, but as a whole returns in both the Netherlands and Australia are still below acceptable levels due to difficult trading conditions. The second half year is continuing somewhat similarly to the first and, subject to the usual qualifications, is expected to produce satisfactory profits. The profits now reported arise from the improved conditions and the benefits from rationalisation following the merger. Your Directors have declared an interim dividend of 1.55p (1.50p), which will be paid on 31st January 1984 to those members on the Register at 12th January 1984.

Meyer International plc
Villiers House 41/47 Strand
London WC2N 5JG

Perstorp 1982/3 results

The chemistry's right!

Turbulent world economic conditions have not slowed Perstorp's dynamic growth and expansion. The key growth, profit, and equity objectives were achieved. And the close of the 1982/3 financial year saw the Corporation well placed to maintain its high performance and upward momentum - a vindication of our long-term strategy.

Encouraging Performance In an industry much troubled by weak demand, the Chemicals Group showed continued strength - especially in polyacrylates and moulding compounds. This Group's consistent performance exemplifies the correctness of our strategy of identifying niches in high technology markets where we can compete among world leaders - and in which we do not need to become shocked to huge plants and unnecessarily heavy investment.

The Components Group, following significant advances in technology and vigorous new marketing measures, has achieved a marked improvement in earnings. The Brazil Group displayed remarkable stability in spite of the problems of the Brazilian economy. We believe that our long-term prospects in this market are good.

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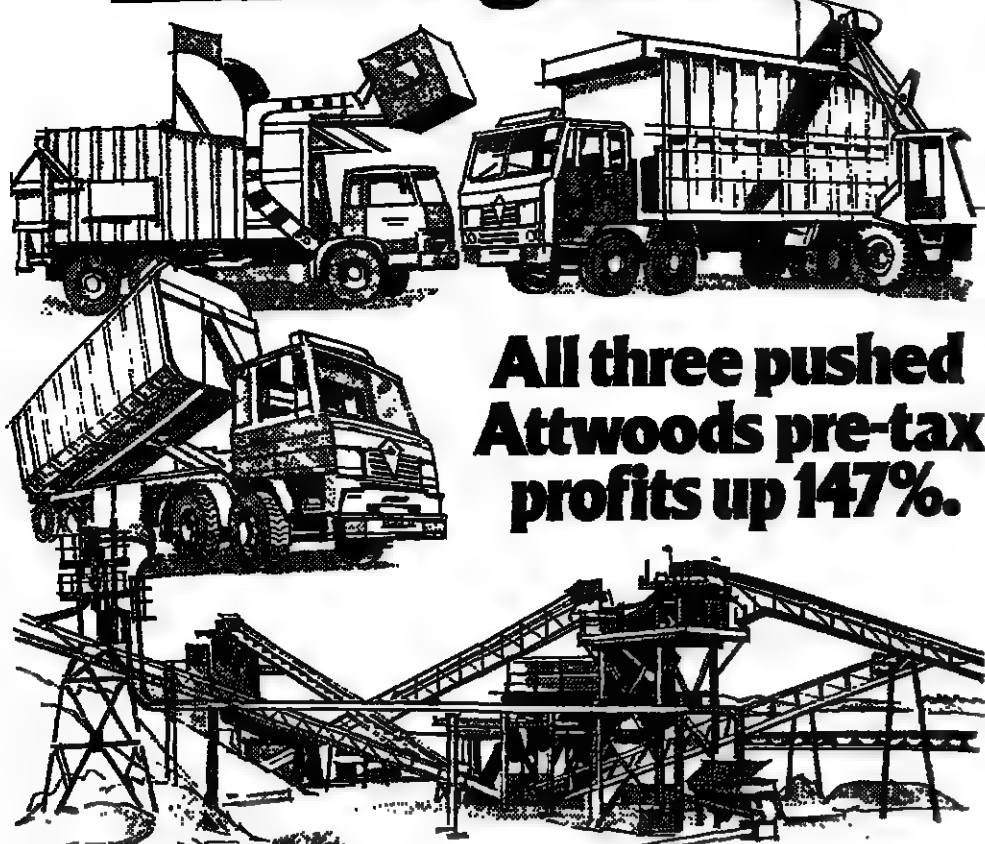
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Perstorp's dynamic growth and expansion. The key growth

Taking out. Filling in. Getting rid of.



**All three pushed
Attwoods pre-tax
profits up 147%.**

Following the disposal of Carols Motors, Attwoods' business is now purely concerned with sand and gravel extraction, landfilling and waste disposal.

The new corporate strategy is already paying dividends with pre-tax profits up from £406,000 to £1.05m, boosting the total dividend to 3.5p (2.0p), up 75% with a one for two share bonus.

Prospects look good for the current year with the recently acquired sand

and gravel quarry at Iwer, Bucks, in full production busily supplying the nearby M25 extension now under construction.

Attwoods

Copies of the Report & Accounts are available from:
The Secretary, Attwoods plc, Stockley Road,
West Drayton, Middlesex UB7 8ND. Tel. (08954) 49321.

AGGREGATES · LANDFILLING · WASTE DISPOSAL

Profits up again for Smith & Nephew

By Jeremy Warner

Smith & Nephew continued its record of uninterrupted profits growth in the nine months to the end of September. Pre-tax profits rose from £23.4m to £30.1m (22.4m) on sales 15 per cent higher at £243.9m.

Once again the health care products group managed to do better than the City expected with the 27 per cent rise in profits reported at half-time extended to nearer 30 per cent at the nine-month stage. The company's share price rose 1p to 165p on the news.

Profits were helped by a sharp reduction in the interest charge from £4.5m to £3m and included a small increase in the contribution from associated companies to £3.8m despite the damage done to sterling results of the Mexican health-care business by the devaluation of the peso.

Results generally benefited from the strong dollar while market shares and margins in most product areas continued their slow, persistent rise.

The tax charge at the nine-month stage was up from £7.4m to £10.3m leaving, after a small

charge for minorities, attributable profits of £19.8m against £16m last time.

It is best known for products such as the household name of Elastoplast. But its money-spinner is Op-Site, an artificial skin used in burn treatment which has been selling particularly well in the United States.

Products such as Nivea creams also had an exceptionally good summer benefiting from the hot July and August weather.

The group has also maintained its share of the sanitary towel market in the face of fierce competition though sales are yet to recover from the toxic shock scare.

ELISA COMMODITIES LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION)

NOTICE to creditors to send in particulars of debts or claims.

In the matter of Elisa Commodities Limited and in the matter of the Companies Act 1985.

NOTICE is hereby given that it is proposed that a dividend will be paid to the Creditors of the above named company. Accordingly, creditors are required to send in the 31st December 1983 to send in their names and addresses, with particulars of their Debts or Claims, existing at 31st March 1981 and the names and addresses of their solicitors (if any), to W. F. Ratford of 1 Fuzzle Dock, Blackheath, London ECU 3PD, England, the Joint Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing by the said Joint Liquidators, are by their solicitors or personally to prove their said Debts or Claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated 9th December 1983
W. F. Ratford
Joint Liquidator

Associated Paper gains despite weak pound

By Jonathan Clare

The adverse effect of the poor sterling exchange rate against the dollar has been offset at Associated Paper Industries by shopping around for pulp at

lower "factory gate" prices. Increased spending on recycling plant has also reduced the company's dependence on imported pulp last year. However, margins at its one remaining paper mill have still been squeezed by rising prices.

Group profits last year were £2.5m against last time's £2.3m, rather better than forecast at the time of September's rights issue and achieved in spite of a poor first quarter.

The rights issue raised cash for two more acquisitions in the filtration field to lessen dependence on APT's traditional paper business.

Profits were higher than forecast because of better results in September, a trend which continued into October and November.

Capital spending at George Whitley, the foil-stamping business, will continue this year, which £750,000 budgeted for new plant. Whitley's sales were good with about 60 per cent of turnover exported to markets which include China.

Base Lending Rates

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| ABN Bank | 9% |
| Barclays | 9% |
| BCCI | 9% |
| Citibank Savings | 110% |
| Continental Trust | 9% |
| C. Hoare & Co | 9% |
| Lloyds Bank | 9% |
| Midland Bank | 9% |
| Nat Westminster | 9% |
| TSB | 9% |
| Williams & Glyn's | 9% |

† Mortgage interest rates:
1 Year deposits are rates of under £10,000. 2 Year deposits are rates of £10,000 to £20,000. 3 Year deposits are rates of over £20,000 and over 7½%.

Herman Smith to raise £2m

By Vivien Goldsmith

Herman Smith, the West Midlands engineers, which has joined the high technology world of composite fibres in a joint venture with an American company, has announced a rights issue and deal with investors in industry which will raise just over £2m.

The issue is designed to raise £960,000 after expenses by an issue of 3,158,182 ordinary shares at 32p on the basis of five shares for every 11 held.

The money will be used to reduce short term bank borrowings and to support production in the company and Herman Smith Hico in which it has a 51 per cent stake.

The Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation (ICFC) division of Investors in Industry is taking up the directors' rights, which will give it a 20 per cent stake in the company. And it is underwriting the issue which makes it liable for a maximum stake of 29 per cent.

New chairman for futures association

Association of Futures Brokers & Dealers: Mr Derek Whiting has become chairman

of the association in succession to Mr David Harcourt, who will continue in an advisory capacity as well as chairman of the London Commodity Exchange.

Black Horse Relocation: Mr John F. Carolan, formerly operations director with Home Equity Relocation, has been appointed associate director with Black Horse Relocation Services - the Lloyds Bank Group home relocation service for corporate customers.

The Royal Trust Company of Canada: Mr J. Trevor Eytton, chairman, Mr Michael A.

APPOINTMENTS

Cornelissen, president and chief executive officer, and Mr Roland B. Breton, senior vice-president, regional operations, of The Royal Trust Company of Canada in London.

International Ferry Freight Group: Mr Christopher Varcoe, formerly head of sales for Bell Lines, has been appointed marketing director of the group (unit load division) from January 1.

Elbar Industrial: Mr Peter C. Timms has become finance director.

WALL STREET

| Dec 13 | Dec 12 | Dec 11 | Dec 10 | Dec 9 | Dec 8 | Dec 7 | Dec 6 | Dec 5 | Dec 4 | Dec 3 | Dec 2 | Dec 1 | Nov 30 | Nov 29 | Nov 28 | Nov 27 | Nov 26 | Nov 25 | Nov 24 | Nov 23 | Nov 22 | Nov 21 | Nov 20 | Nov 19 | Nov 18 | Nov 17 | Nov 16 | Nov 15 | Nov 14 | Nov 13 | Nov 12 | Nov 11 | Nov 10 | Nov 9 | Nov 8 | Nov 7 | Nov 6 | Nov 5 | Nov 4 | Nov 3 | Nov 2 | Nov 1 | Oct 31 | Oct 30 | Oct 29 | Oct 28 | Oct 27 | Oct 26 | Oct 25 | Oct 24 | Oct 23 | Oct 22 | Oct 21 | Oct 20 | Oct 19 | Oct 18 | Oct 17 | Oct 16 | Oct 15 | Oct 14 | Oct 13 | Oct 12 | Oct 11 | Oct 10 | Oct 9 | Oct 8 | Oct 7 | Oct 6 | Oct 5 | Oct 4 | Oct 3 | Oct 2 | Oct 1 | Sept 30 | Sept 29 | Sept 28 | Sept 27 | Sept 26 | Sept 25 | Sept 24 | Sept 23 | Sept 22 | Sept 21 | Sept 20 | Sept 19 | Sept 18 | Sept 17 | Sept 16 | Sept 15 | Sept 14 | Sept 13 | Sept 12 | Sept 11 | Sept 10 | Sept 9 | Sept 8 | Sept 7 | Sept 6 | Sept 5 | Sept 4 | Sept 3 | Sept 2 | Sept 1 | Aug 31 | Aug 30 | Aug 29 | Aug 28 | Aug 27 | Aug 26 | Aug 25 | Aug 24 | Aug 23 | Aug 22 | Aug 21 | Aug 20 | Aug 19 | Aug 18 | Aug 17 | Aug 16 | Aug 15 | Aug 14 | Aug 13 | Aug 12 | Aug 11 | Aug 10 | Aug 9 | Aug 8 | Aug 7 | Aug 6 | Aug 5 | Aug 4 | Aug 3 | Aug 2 | Aug 1 | July 31 | July 30 | July 29 | July 28 | July 27 | July 26 | July 25 | July 24 | July 23 | July 22 | July 21 | July 20 | July 19 | July 18 | July 17 | July 16 | July 15 | July 14 | July 13 | July 12 | July 11 | July 10 | July 9 | July 8 | July 7 | July 6 | July 5 | July 4 | July 3 | July 2 | July 1 | June 30 | June 29 | June 28 | June 27 | June 26 | June 25 | June 24 | June 23 | June 22 | June 21 | June 20 | June 19 | June 18 | June 17 | June 16 | June 15 | June 14 | June 13 | June 12 | June 11 | June 10 | June 9 | June 8 | June 7 | June 6 | June 5 | June 4 | June 3 | June 2 | June 1 | May 31 | May 30 | May 29 | May 28 | May 27 | May 26 | May 25 | May 24 | May 23 | May 22 | May 21 | May 20 | May 19 | May 18 | May 17 | May 16 | May 15 | May 14 | May 13 | May 12 | May 11 | May 10 | May 9 | May 8 | May 7 | May 6 | May 5 | May 4 | May 3 | May 2 | May 1 | April 30 | April 29 | April 28 | April 27 | April 26 | April 25 | April 24 | April 23 | April 22 | April 21 | April 20 | April 19 | April 18 | April 17 | April 16 | April 15 | April 14 | April 13 | April 12 | April 11 | April 10 | April 9 | April 8 | April 7 | April 6 | April 5 | April 4 | April 3 | April 2 | April 1 | March 31 | March 30 | March 29 | March 28 | March 27 | March 26 | March 25 | March 24 | March 23 | March 22 | March 21 | March 20 | March 19 | March 18 | March 17 | March 16 | March 15 | March 14 | March 13 | March 12 | March 11 | March 10 | March 9 | March 8 | March 7 | March 6 | March 5 | March 4 | March 3 | March 2 | March 1 | February 28 | February 27 | February 26 | February 25 | February 24 | February 23 | February 22 | February 21 | February 20 | February 19 | February 18 | February 17 | February 16 | February 15 | February 14 | February 13 | February 12 | February 11 | February 10 | February 9 | February 8 | February 7 | February 6 | February 5 | February 4 | February 3 | February 2 | February 1 | January 31 | January 30 | January 29 | January 28 | January 27 | January 26 | January 25 | January 24 | January 23 | January 22 | January 21 | January 20 | January 19 | January 18 | January 17 | January 16 | January 15 | January 14 | January 13 | January 12 | January 11 | January 10 | January 9 | January 8 | January 7 | January 6 | January 5 | January 4 | January 3 | January 2 | January 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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TENNIS: SURPRISES IN NEW SOUTH WALES TOURNAMENT

Lloyd puts out top seed to maintain run of success

Sydney (Agence) - John Lloyd beat the top seed, Vitas Gerulaitis, 7-5, 6-3 in the first round of the New South Wales men's open tournament yesterday.

Lloyd has had a good year. He is now in the top 100 in the world for the first time in six years; his last appearance among the elite was in 1978, when he reached the Australian open final against Gerulaitis.

With Wendy Turnbull, of Australia, he won the mixed doubles championship at Wimbledon this summer - the first British man to win a Wimbledon title since Fred Perry before the last war. He also reached the last 16 in the United States open championships at Flushing Meadows, where he lost to Mark Dickson, of the United States.

He beat Gerulaitis in little over an hour. Gerulaitis, beaten in the first round of the Australian open in Melbourne, battled well until Lloyd took the first set with breaks in the second and fourth games, and though Gerulaitis broke back there was to be no reprieve. Lloyd secured his win with three cracking serves in the ninth game.

With the Davis Cup final between Sweden and Australia two weeks away, Swedish players continued to impress, while Australian hopes suffered another blow with the defeat of two singles prospects, John Fitzgerald and Mark Edmondson.

Fitzgerald, seeded sixth, was outstanding in the Davis Cup semi-final round in the Davis Cup here, but yesterday was far from his best, losing to Robert Seguso, of the United States, 3-6, 7-5, 6-1 in the second round. Seguso is ranked 33rd in the world, compared with Fitzgerald's 35th, and had to play three matches as a qualifier.

Edmondson, the ninth seed, went out to the heavy serving Mark Dickson 7-6, 6-4 in the first round. Dickson is ranked 88th in the world and outclassed the former Australian open champion and Davis Cup stalwart. But for those who have followed the Clement University student's progress, the victory may not have come as such a surprise, for he reached the quarter-final round of the United States open.

The most encouraging performance from the Swedish Davis Cup contingent was by Anders Jarryd, who overcame the fearsome serving power of the American left-hander, Mike Leach, and advanced to the third round with a 7-5, 7-5 win. Jarryd is likely to be named Sweden's No 2 singles player for the final, which starts on December 26 at Kooyong, Melbourne.

The new junior grand slam champion, Stefan Edberg, also showed that he will become a player to be reckoned with, producing a classic serve-and-volley performance to win his first round match 8-2, 6-0 against Charlie Fancutt, of Australia.

Two other seeds fell in the second round. Tom Gullikson, of the United States, 3-6, 7-5, 6-1 by Broderick Dyke, of Australia. Eric Konta, the No 12 seed, was beaten by another American, Marty Davis, 4-6, 6-3, 6-1 at Kooyong, Melbourne.

FIRST ROUND: Nyström (Swe) to H Simonsson (AUS) 7-5, 6-3; 9. Tjander (US) to R Frawley (AUS) 6-2, 6-0; M. Dickson (US) to J Fitzgerald (AUS) 7-6, 6-4; M. Hecar (AUS) to J Gahring (AUS) 5-1, 1-6, 6-0; B. Seguso (US) to J Edmondson (AUS) 3-6, 7-5, 6-1; S. Edberg (Swe) to C Fancutt (AUS) 8-2, 6-0; P. Cash (AUS) to S. Yal (AUS) 6-2, 6-0.

SECOND ROUND: Davis to K Konta (AUS) 4-6, 7-5, 6-1; T. Gullikson (US) to M. Frawley (AUS) 3-6, 7-5, 6-1; D. P. P. (US) to M. Macphail (AUS) 6-3, 6-0; S. Edberg (Swe) to J. Fitzgerald (AUS) 3-6, 7-5, 6-1; J. Jarryd (Swe) to M. Leach (US) 7-5, 7-5; M. Hecar (AUS) to Z. Kuncz (AUS) 6-3, 6-2.



John Lloyd: back among the elite for the first time since 1978. Photograph: Chris Cole.

Top-heavy rewards

Kaaria (Reuters) - Martina Navratilova has clarified comments on prize-money at major events which she made at the Australian open championships in Melbourne last week. Miss Navratilova, said the problem over prize-money had arisen because players were spoiled by tour events in the United States where 40 per cent of the profits went back into prize money. "At Grand Slam events it is only eight to 10 per cent," Mrs King said. "We are overpaid at other events but underpaid by the Grand Slam tournament. They have been the last to respond to the players' needs."

I wasn't criticizing the winners' prizes. If you win or even get to the last four, the prizes are great."

Billie Jean King, here for an exhibition match against Miss Navratilova, said the problem over prize-money had arisen because players were spoiled by tour events in the United States where 40 per cent of the profits went back into prize money. "At Grand Slam events it is only eight to 10 per cent," Mrs King said. "We are overpaid at other events but underpaid by the Grand Slam tournament. They have been the last to respond to the players' needs."

CROSS COUNTRY

Big names to contest IAC race at Ipswich

By Pat Butcher

The International Athletics Club cross-country race, sponsored this year by Rank Xerox, and moved from Crystal Palace to Chantry Park, Ipswich, has a small, but impressive field.

The line up for Saturday's race includes Carlos Lopes, of Portugal, who was second in this year's world championship at Goteborg, Dave Moorcroft, the world 5,000 metres record holder, in his first international race in Britain, since his illness and injury of last summer. Gidamis Shalunga, of Tanzania, the Commonwealth 10,000 metres champion, and Tim Hutchings, the English national champion.

Hutchings has been in excellent form in this early part of the season, winning at Gateshead a month ago, and then in the important Peterborough race 10 days ago, but he made the mistake of going back to France with the heat Tazewell last Sunday, and was well beaten in Nancy. Another Englishman in form for Ipswich is Steve Harris, who was such an impressive winner in the Rank Xerox 10 kilometre road race in Battersea Park last week.

Boguslaw Marinski of Poland, the world steeplechase silver medal winner, and Zachary Barie, the Tanzanian who recently won the United States inter-collegiate title are the other prominent foreigners, but there will be a specially warm welcome for the third Tanzanian in the field, Filbert Bayi, the former world 1,500 metres record holder.

Rugby Union: Professional game to start in April - May

Lord changes course and sets his sails for the calmer waters of the Antipodes



Lord: Optimistic

By a Special Correspondent

David Lord, the budding professional promoter, has been stretching the fabric of his planned international rugby extravaganza in many directions to meet various problems over the last three months. Last week he strained the concept in other directions, and at the same time further strained his own credibility. He seems to be using not first grade woad but a sec-though fabric.

The grand plan to start world championship rugby, comprising eight national teams, in Europe in January-February, has now been discarded. Instead, Lord is now aiming to launch his professional craft in Australia and New Zealand in April-May. The next port of call will, apparently, be South Africa in July-August, and with those journeys completed, Lord feels it will be safe to take his troupe to Britain and France in November-December.

Lord has offered four reasons for changing course from Europe to the Antipodes. One was the feeling that after New Zealand had played in Scotland, and England and Australia in France, in October-November, their reappearance, even under a new banner, in Europe in January-February would represent overkill, or at least overexposure of the same players.

He regarded the British press as totally hostile and did not wish, as he said, "to start his campaign in the lions den". Thirdly, he did not want to take the risk of having television coverage upset by the possibility of strike action. Fourthly, he felt that autumn fields in Australia, New Zealand and Fiji would be more conducive to the type of rugby he was aiming for than the "slip of winter fields in Europe".

These arguments do not bear close examination. The wallaby tour of France has been on the books for years and New Zealand sought the England-Scotland tour in September, so neither was a complete surprise.

Television strikes have largely affected the BBC, which has not shown any interest in Lord's plans. The playing fields of the Antipodes may be firmer and faster than those of mid-winter Britain, but this is still only guesswork unless Lord has expanded his interest to include the conduct of the weather. And Fleet Street may or may not be deterred to reward the prospect that a hot played the progress of

obtain international-quality teams from Ireland, Scotland and Fiji. But the acid test will come with Lord's plan to take his eight squads into South Africa for a tournament in July-August, without including a South African national team.

After the tournament Lord plans the selection of a world fifteen which, he says, would then play three internationals against South Africa. Predictably, Dr. Danie Craven has flinched about this. Lord's reaction is that Dr Craven could not do anything else with an international rugby board meeting scheduled for March.

Lord, incidentally, sees the projected England tour of South Africa as critical to his planning. He seems sure that the British government will stop the tour. At least, he hopes so, for if France and England both tour South Africa Lord can see his professional plans being squeezed into the minor part of the South African season.

As a precaution, Lord says he has consulted Australian government foreign affairs staff about a possible breach of the Gleneagles Agreement - an issue the Australian government regards as very sensitive. "The Gleneagles Agreement is aimed at banning national teams from playing South Africa," Lord said. "A composite world fifteen cannot be regarded as a team from one country. The people in Canberra are not exactly happy about the idea, but they say it does not breach Gleneagles."

The cancellation of the opening European campaign must be a minus mark for Lord, and he will have to work very hard in the next few months to work up a few credits, and more credibility.

MOTOR RACING

Renault rejoice as new car is unveiled

By John Blunsden

The Renault Grand Prix racing team, eager to brush aside their frustration at failing to win the 1983 world championship, have unveiled their new car for 1984 in a mood of optimism.

To be known as the Renault-ELF RE30, it has been built around a completely new monocoque structure and is claimed to be lighter, stronger, aerodynamically more efficient and safer in terms of driver protection than this year's RE40 model.

An impressive debut was made at the first test on the Renault circuit at Magny-Cours, where the new car was driven by Patrick Tambay, who had won the 1983 world championship.

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BOXING

England coast to victory over Germany

England's amateur boxers led by the Commonwealth champion, Rod Douglas, coasted to a comfortable 8-3 victory over West Germany at the City Hall, Hull on Monday.

Douglas, who also won a ABA title and recently stopped the European silver medal winner, added another valuable scalp to his collection. This time, he convincingly outpointed the world bronze medal winner, Manfred Zlöf.

It was not such a happy night for Gloucester's Roy Hutchinson, who had come on as a last minute replacement for Bob McKanley. He found the welterweight, Raimund Czerrel, too strong and was stopped in the third round. Birkhead's Dave Jennings stopped Werner Schaefer in the first round.

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Norster back for Cardiff

The British Lions and Wales lock, Robert Norster is back for Cardiff Athletic, against Glynneath on Saturday. Norster has been out of action for six months with back injury since the second international for the Lions against the All Blacks in Wellington on June 18.

Wales will be without Maurice Colclough, Paul Randall and Richard Sumner at home to Northampton. Nigel Melville, the captain, who has not played since being injured on the Lions of New Zealand, could be back to action this year.

Bristol's Stuart Barnes, tipped as a future England stand-off half, has a chance to compete against the man in possession, Cusworth. Bristol have dropped Bogie, who has played in all 23 club games this season. He is replaced by Palmer, whose last appearance was a watershed when he was dropped from the Lions for the Cup final.

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Admitting 'without prejudice' letters Extending time for tenant's application

Cutts v Head and Another
Before Lord Justice Oliver and Lord Justice Fox
[Judgment delivered December 7]

Offer to settle actions, made "without prejudice" but subject to an express reservation of the right to refer to them on the issue of costs should the action proceed to judgment were admissible for that purpose in all cases where a payment into court was not appropriate.

The Court of Appeal so held in following an appeal by the plaintiff, Oliver Alfred Sydney Cutts, of 10, Lower Cowesfield Farm, Whitechurch, Hampshire, to the plaintiff, Head and Another, of 10, Lower Cowesfield Farm, Whitechurch, Hampshire, in the County Court at Southampton. The plaintiff's claim was for damages for trespass to land. The defendant's defence was that the plaintiff's claim was barred by the Limitation Act 1980. The plaintiff's claim was for damages for trespass to land. The defendant's defence was that the plaintiff's claim was barred by the Limitation Act 1980. The plaintiff's claim was for damages for trespass to land. The defendant's defence was that the plaintiff's claim was barred by the Limitation Act 1980.

All v Knight and Another
Before Lord Justice Eveleigh and Lord Justice O'Connor
[Judgment delivered December 6]

Where the court, in the exercise of its discretion under Order 7, rule 2(2) of the County Court Rules 1981, extended the time for service of an originating application by a tenant, it did not have to consider whether the tenant's failure to comply with the original time limit was due to any exceptional circumstances.

The Court of Appeal so held in following an appeal by the tenant, All, in relation to shop premises and living accommodation, from the decision of the County Court at Southampton. The tenant's application was for an order extending the time for service of an originating application by a tenant. The court, in the exercise of its discretion under Order 7, rule 2(2) of the County Court Rules 1981, extended the time for service of an originating application by a tenant. It did not have to consider whether the tenant's failure to comply with the original time limit was due to any exceptional circumstances.

Southall March 1986 Settlement
Before Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice O'Connor
[Judgment delivered December 6]

Where the court, in the exercise of its discretion under Order 7, rule 2(2) of the County Court Rules 1981, extended the time for service of an originating application by a tenant, it did not have to consider whether the tenant's failure to comply with the original time limit was due to any exceptional circumstances.

The Court of Appeal so held in following an appeal by the tenant, Southall March 1986 Settlement, from the decision of the County Court at Southampton. The tenant's application was for an order extending the time for service of an originating application by a tenant. The court, in the exercise of its discretion under Order 7, rule 2(2) of the County Court Rules 1981, extended the time for service of an originating application by a tenant. It did not have to consider whether the tenant's failure to comply with the original time limit was due to any exceptional circumstances.

Universal Salvage Ltd and Another v Boothby
Before Lord Justice Robert Goff and Lord Justice Mann
[Judgment delivered December 9]

By section 111 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, where justices have found a defendant guilty of an offence, they may, if they think it just, order the defendant to pay a fine or to do some other thing.

The Court of Appeal so held in following an appeal by the defendant, Universal Salvage Ltd and Another, from the decision of the Magistrates' Court at Southampton. The defendant was found guilty of an offence under the Road Traffic Act 1972. The justices ordered the defendant to pay a fine. The defendant appealed. The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal and ordered the defendant to pay a fine.

Impermissible to imply duration term
Tower Hamlets London Borough Council v The British Gas Corporation
Before Lord Justice Lawton, Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice Kerr
[Judgment delivered December 8]

Where a contract was silent as to duration, it was not permissible to imply a term that the contract was for a fixed term.

The Court of Appeal so held in following an appeal by the defendant, Tower Hamlets London Borough Council, from the decision of the Queen's Bench Division. The contract was for the supply of gas. The council claimed that the contract was for a fixed term. The court held that it was not permissible to imply a term that the contract was for a fixed term.

Justice wrong to refuse to hear objector
Regina v Bromley Licensing Justices, Ex parte Bromley Licensed Victuallers Association
Before Lord Justice Woolf
[Judgment delivered December 8]

It was wrong for licensing justices to refuse to hear an objector when they considered whether to grant an application for an occasional permission under the Licensing (Occasional Permissions) Act 1983, and it was wrong for those justices to grant an occasional permission to a licensee who had been refused a full license.

The Court of Appeal so held in following an appeal by the defendant, Regina, from the decision of the Bromley Licensing Justices. The justices refused to hear an objector. The court held that it was wrong for licensing justices to refuse to hear an objector.

Divisional Court's power to substitute sentence

Universal Salvage Ltd and Another v Boothby
Before Lord Justice Robert Goff and Lord Justice Mann
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Net offence is absolute

Champion v Maughan and Another
Before Lord Justice Goff and Lord Justice Mann
[Judgment delivered December 8]

Section 6(1)(a) of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 provided that any person who placed a fixed engine in any inland or tidal waters should be guilty of an offence.

The Court of Appeal so held in following an appeal by the defendant, Champion, from the decision of the Divisional Court. The defendant was charged with an offence under section 6(1)(a) of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975. The court held that the offence was absolute.

Impermissible to imply duration term
Tower Hamlets London Borough Council v The British Gas Corporation
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Transferring actions

La creme de la creme
The Energy Equipment Company Limited, a subsidiary of Petrofina (UK) Limited, is a fast growing company at the forefront of energy engineering.

Due to promotion we are currently seeking a Secretary/PA to our Managing Director.

The ideal applicant will have had several years secretarial experience at Director level and should be prepared to take charge of the secretarial services within the company. Excellent typing/shorthand skills and a flair for organisation and administration are essential.

You must be discreet, of smart appearance and have a pleasant personality. It is unlikely that anyone under 25 years will have had sufficient experience to fulfill the requirements and responsibilities of this position.

Please telephone for an application form or write enclosing a full C.V. to:-

Ms Suzanne Sutcliffe, Personnel Officer, The Energy Equipment Company Limited, Energy House, Hockley Street, Leighton Buzzard, BEDS LU7 8HE. Telephone: (0525) 377600.

SENIOR SECRETARY/P.A.
London W.1
High-Point Services Group Plc who provide a complete range of professional advisory, management and financial services to the international contracting, the offshore oil and gas and allied industries, require two Senior Secretaries/Personal Assistants to work for the Group Chairman and one of the Group Senior Executive Directors at the Groups' corporate head office, High-Point House, 19 Fitzroy Square, London W.1.

Applications are invited from suitably experienced Secretaries aged 25-40, who are able to demonstrate appropriate secretarial skills, including the ability to use telex and audio facilities when required. Knowledge of the French language is desirable. Responsibilities will include the organisation and planning of overseas business trips, entertaining and dealing with people at the highest level.

Successful applicants will be required to demonstrate the necessary previous experience and the personal qualities relevant to such confidential positions.

We are seeking people who are motivated by a combination of remuneration, responsibility and varied challenging work.

Please telephone or write, in the first instance, for an application form to:-

Mr. D. H. Wilkes, Manager, Group Services, HIGH-POINT SERVICES GROUP PLC, KING EDWARD HOUSE, NEW STREET, BIRMINGHAM B2 4JL. TELE: 031 201 1100.

SECRETARY
Business Affairs
EMI Records
We are looking for a young, lively person to join our Business Affairs team whose work involves the negotiating and drafting of contracts between the Company and its artists, producers, etc., and the contractual aspects of the licensing of recorded material by, and to, the Company.

Assisting two members of the team you will be working in a dynamic and cheerful atmosphere and your duties will involve shorthand, typing, audio, organising meetings and administrative tasks.

To qualify you should have 'O' level standard of education, confident shorthand and typing, an ability to learn quickly and also to communicate well with a variety of people. Bright college leavers will be considered.

We are offering a salary range of £2,000 - £2,500 (a.e.c.). We are offering working conditions and other company benefits.

To apply please write with full details to Barbara Rotterova, Senior Personnel Officer, EMI RECORDS (UK), 20 Manchester Square, London W1A 4SE.

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Smart efficient and personable PA/Secretary required for property Co. in prestigious office.

Shorthand and good typing essential. Ability to work under pressure and use own initiative important. Salary negotiable.

Tel. Lucinda Gough-Allen on 499 9986

PERSONAL ASSISTANT/SECRETARY
This is an interesting post combining administrative and secretarial duties. The post would suit somebody with initiative who enjoys organising their own work in a fast moving environment. Typing and shorthand skills essential.

Salary: £6,712 - £6,146 per annum inclusive.

For an informal talk about the post please contact: Jamie Sharpley on 01-630 9900 ext. 2351. Job description and application form available from the Personnel Department, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London EC1A 7BE. Phone 01-630 9300 ext. 2188.

Please quote reference NP/788.

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Fluent & written.

Knowledge German. Young secretary wanted for City job.

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BRIGHT EDUCATED
Young person required as trainee in Estate Agents, Surveyors, and Property Managers, based Kensington.

SW7
Telephone Mr Pasha on 581 3623

PROPERTY DEVELOPER
SW1
requires shorthand secretary able to work on own initiative. Salary negotiable.

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SENIOR SECRETARY/PA
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Experienced only person urgently required for major export company. Overlooking Kensington Gardens. First class opportunity for a motivated person.

Contact Jackie at Farmgate Ltd on 027 9616

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
£10,000
A leading company in the north of England seeks a well educated and efficient person with a sense of humour, age 30-35, to report and train staff and be responsible for the efficient running of the office. Previous experience in the field essential.

Please Ring 588 3535

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SECRETARY/P.A.
Owner of small but expanding business based in Clapham (London) needs help. Company business to expand & expanding of defence equipment. Applicant must be able to organise & run the admin side of business & be able to work alone some of the time. Must have a licence & preferably be a driver. Good salary & fringe benefits offered.

Please write enclosing C.V. to Box 1088, The Times.

PA/SECRETARY
SAFA needs a responsible PA/Secretary for their new Chief Executive.

SAFA is a well-established service industry welfare charity with offices in the City, St. James's Park, London. The work is interesting and demanding and you will have the opportunity to work on a variety of projects. Excellent salary & benefits package.

Salary £9,000 negotiable. Apply with full details to SDP Whips office (T), House of Commons, London SW1.

ST THOMAS'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL
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Wanted for Medical School administration a mature Secretary/Admin Assistant with good organisational ability for combined post of Secretary to the Pre-registration Advisers, and keeper of the old students records. Usual secretarial skills required and ability to handle a large volume of work. The successful applicant must be able to work as part of a team. The person appointed would be expected to gain the confidence of senior medical staff and also young medical graduates.

Salary based on scale £7,346 - £8,348 pa inclusive.

Written application, giving full details to:- MRS DEAR, STAFFING OFFICE

A Christmas Cracker
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Add up the benefits! An excellent opportunity to join a leading international company. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. Excellent salary & benefits package.

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MAYFAIR
Are you between 25-40, able to handle a large volume of work, accurate typist with good shorthand and business English?

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Grafton Consultants
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Elizabeth Hunt
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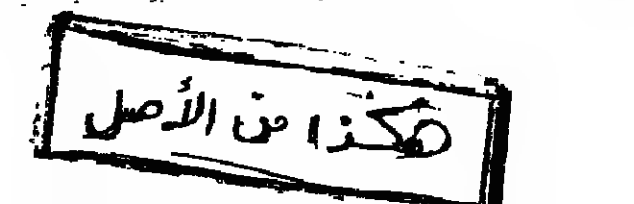
SALES CRACKER
- £28,000 + bonus
Add up the benefits! An excellent opportunity to join a leading international company. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. Excellent salary & benefits package.

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Property Buyers' Guide

Residential property/Christopher Warman

New homes for retired people

First-time buyers may be the biggest target for new house builders, but what might be called "last-time" buyers - the retired and elderly - are attracting increasing attention.

For one thing, new building tends to be concentrated on providing homes for particular sections of the community or for special needs, but another incentive is the increasing number of elderly people. The latest issue of *Social Trends*, produced by the Central Statistical Office reports that there were one million more people aged 65 and over in 1981 than there were in 1971. There are three main reasons for this more men are taking early retirement there could be 750,000 more men and women aged over 75 by the end of the century; and life expectancy continues to rise.

Many people, of course, have no intention of moving when they retire, having already bought the home in which they wish to live in the future. But equally as many will find their present homes too large and unmanageable, or too far from shopping centres and other services.

The concept of sheltered homes for the elderly is not new but in the past it has been carried out mainly by local authorities and housing associations; the private sector has moved in.

A leader in the market for sheltered homes for elderly owner-occupiers is McCarthy and Stone, of New Milton, Hampshire, which now specialises almost entirely in the provision of sheltered homes, and has completed some 25 developments with more than 1,000 housing units. Their developments generally range between 40 and 60 flats, usually with one bedroom and designed to accommodate either one or two persons.

In case of emergencies, the units are linked to the resident warden's office, and particular attention is paid to the selection of sites - which are preferably a short walk on level ground to main shops and other amenities.

Flats are usually sold on a 99-year lease, and prices start at about £20,000. A condition of the lease is that the occupier must be over 60, and an additional management charge is made to cover the cost of the warden's salaries, communal expenses and building maintenance costs, amounting to £6-£8 a week.

The firm has found that 80 per cent of the purchasers come from the local community and that 15 per cent have had previous connections with the area.

McCarthy and Stone, has a number of developments in the area from Romsey to Brockenhurst and Bournemouth, and others as far away as Eastbourne, Folkestone, Exeter and Winchester.

At the expensive end of the scale, the English Courtyard Association, of Kensington, London, W8, provides a variety of accommodation priced between £55,000 and £80,000. It is a non-profit-making company, specialising in luxury accommodation for the elderly and retired and is conscious of the need to protect fixed incomes against inflation.

Its cottages and flats are normally sold on 150-year leases at property market prices to allow owners' capital to increase in step with inflation in such prices. After a sale the proceeds go to the association, the developer's profit is realized and thereafter the scheme is managed on a non-profit basis.

The accommodation is based on the traditional courtyard plan of almshouses and consists of terraces and courts of two-storey cottages and flats. The grounds are landscaped to create the atmosphere of a country house or an Oxford College, and each has a warden.

The idea behind the association came from Mr Noel Shuttleworth, who searched for a home for his

elderly mother and found a complete lack of any place that combined security and emergency help with a running cost that could be met from a fixed income. With Geometer Developments, the association has homes in most of the southern counties and in Worcestershire.

With Geometer Developments, the association has homes in most of the southern counties and in Worcestershire. Its latest development, either under construction or planned, are at Emmer Green, near Reading; Puddleton, near Dorchester; Long Melford, Suffolk; and Lenham, near Maidstone.

Alfrey Homes has a subsidiary company, New Horizon Homes, which specialises in the provision of housing both for the active retired and for who are incapacitated but wish to maintain their independence. All its homes are sold on a 99-year lease, with a resident warden for each development. Its planned projects range from one and two-bedroom flats and houses at Bridgwater, Somerset, priced from £21,000 to £26,000, to one, two and three-bedroom houses and bungalows at Rotherfield, near Crowborough, East Sussex, priced from £37,000 to £55,000. A conversion of the Grade II listed Overley House, at Alcester, Warwickshire, will yield flats, houses and bungalows costing from £28,000 to £45,000.

New Horizon, based at Hove, Sussex, last month opened their new luxury apartments at Brighton, called Elm Court, the first private sheltered housing development in the town. The project includes 37 one and two-bedroom flats, with prices starting from £28,950.

To minimize the "stress factor" of moving, the company arranges household removals and the ordering and connection of kitchen appliances and telephone, and will consider buying in the purchaser's present property.

Barratt, Britain's largest private housebuilders, was unlikely to stay out of this new market for long, and last week its first development for the retired was opened at Oaklands, Waterlooville, Hampshire.

Barratt described the market for such housing as sadly neglected. It's research has shown that most retired people want an accommodation which still offers independence, flexibility and the scope to host occasional visitors.

Barratt's Regency Retirement Living, in the form of Regency apartments and courts, offers one and two-bedroom apartments in buildings with many communal facilities, and also self-contained bungalows and flats each with its own access and garden as well as some common features. It has 24 such developments under construction throughout Britain.



Country Property

Humberts

Kent 115 acres

Barren 115 acres, Maidstone and M20 2 miles. London 35 miles. High amenity agricultural land with full planning consent for a golf complex. A valuable undulating timbered park close to centre of high population. Freehold for sale with about 115 acres. John Agnew, 100, High Street, Chatham. Tel: (0474) 517100. Humberts Landplan (Land Use and Leisure Industry Consultants) London Office, Tel: 01-262 3121.

Wiltshire/Dorset border 9 1/2 acres

Shelbury 3 miles. Tisbury 5 miles. Waterloo under 2 hours. Salisbury 19 miles. A charming house occupying an elevated site with a superb view of the surrounding rolling countryside. 3 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large garden, paddocks. For sale freehold with about 9 1/2 acres. The house is in excellent condition. Tel: 01793 5452. 11/2000/2000

5 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PB Telephone: 01-242 3121/0998. Telex: 27444

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Cambridgeshire. 4 miles from nearest village. 4-bedroomed house in excellent condition and standing in 14 acres. Ideal for a family or as a holiday home. 11 miles, school 1/2 mile, shops 2 miles, 2 1/2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large garden, detached garage, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Large and well equipped country estate with excellent views. Mandy for fishing and boating too. £29,750 net. Milestone 480.

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To secure this magnificent family residence, the Brighton Rodean, the last of its kind in the town, is a rare opportunity. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large garden, detached garage, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Large and well equipped country estate with excellent views. Mandy for fishing and boating too. £29,750 net. Milestone 480.

ASHTON, SURREY

House overlooking unspoiled garden. Private estate, 3 1/2 acres. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large garden, detached garage, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Large and well equipped country estate with excellent views. Mandy for fishing and boating too. £29,750 net. Milestone 480.

LASTINGHAM N. YORKS

Attractive 3 bedroom stone detached house in picturesque village. Ideal retirement/weekend use. Modernised inc CH. Offers in region £42,500. Tel: 0742 36588 after 5 pm

COTTAGE IN MERE, WILTSHIRE

Small detached cottage, ideal for a holiday home. 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, large garden, detached garage, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Large and well equipped country estate with excellent views. Mandy for fishing and boating too. £29,750 net. Milestone 480.

BRIXHAM, 5 DEVON

Gravel house, lastly converted to a two-bedroom semi-detached house. 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, large garden, detached garage, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Large and well equipped country estate with excellent views. Mandy for fishing and boating too. £29,750 net. Milestone 480.

WOODSTOCK, OXFORDSHIRE

Large 4 bedroom Victorian house in excellent condition. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large garden, detached garage, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Large and well equipped country estate with excellent views. Mandy for fishing and boating too. £29,750 net. Milestone 480.

COUNTRY CHAPEL

Converted into a charming and unusual house. 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, large garden, detached garage, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Large and well equipped country estate with excellent views. Mandy for fishing and boating too. £29,750 net. Milestone 480.

CHIPPENDALE, WILTSHIRE

Large 4 bedroom Victorian house in excellent condition. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large garden, detached garage, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Large and well equipped country estate with excellent views. Mandy for fishing and boating too. £29,750 net. Milestone 480.

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North of the Thames

STYLISH SPACIOUS

Well appointed flat, 2 bed, 2 bath, 20 sq ft, 5 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

FULHAM

NEAR PARK AND RIVER 6 room fully mod. Edwardian detached house, 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

SW10

Would you like a beautiful modern garden flat with dramatic views, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

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ELKINGTON PHILIPS 351 0077. South Kensington, Bright flat, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

DUTCH BARGE-FOR SALE

3 bedrooms, large living room, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

UNIQUE LARGE VICTORIAN

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

SW17/18/19

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

LONDON FLATS

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

OVERSEAS PROPERTY

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

WANTED: PROPERTY IN FRANCE

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

PARIS PIED A TERRE

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

COSTA DEL SOL

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

SPAIN, COSTA DEL SOL

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

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3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

Temporary Secretaries

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

TO £10,000

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

SECRETARY

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

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Stanhope Gdns, SW7

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

TEDDINGTON MIDDX.

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

Brentford £41,000

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

CHEYNE ROW SW7

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

BRADLEYS

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

PEMBROKE VILLAS, W11

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

HAMPSTEAD VILLAGE

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

CORAM MANIONS

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

NORTH END HOUSE

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

LAND FOR SALE

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

McCompher International

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

VILLARS-SWITZERLAND

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

PUTNEY

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

CLAPHAM OLD TOWN

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South of the Thames

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

PUTNEY

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, 20 ft x 100 ft, 10 mins to station, 10 mins to town, 10 mins to school, 10 mins to shopping, 10 mins to leisure. Tel: 01-883 7894

CLAPHAM OLD TOWN

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

19

BBC 1

6.00 **Coffee AM.**
6.30 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Sophie Aldred. News from Farm Britain at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hour; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; the day's television preview at 8.30; a look at the morning papers at 7.15 and 8.15; **News** at 8.35; Mike Smith's pop news between 7.45 and 8.00; and Esther Rantzen's 'That's Life' between 7.30 and 7.45 followed by the 'phone-in' between 8.30 and 8.55.
9.00 **Masquerade** with Magnus Magnusson (R) 9.35
9.55 **Closedown** 10.30 **Play School**, presented by Brian Jameson (R) 10.55 **Chatter** visits a West-Indian Clinic at the Wilton Maternity and Child Health Centre in Manchester 11.20 **Closedown**.
12.30 **News Afternoon** with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Michael Fish 12.57 **Regional news** (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles) 1.00 **Pascale** with Gino, Michael Smith has some advice on the preparation and cooking of Christmas dinner 1.45 **Holiday Colours**. A Gee-Saw programme for the very young. **2.00** **A Day Out** with Gary Richards as he explores the delights of Nottingham 2.25 **Film: Tom, Dick and Harry** (1941) starring Ginger Rogers and George Formby. A romantic comedy about a telephoneist who is being courted by three admirers. Which one will she choose? Directed by Garson Kanin.
3.55 **Play School**, presented by Alice Ashworth 4.20 **The Adversaries of Bumblebee** and **Rocky**. Episode Six of the eight-part cartoon serial 4.25 **Jacksons**. Nerys Hughes and the Making of Fingers Frimman 4.40 **Screen Test**. The grand final of the celebrity recall contest 5.00 **John Craven's Newsround** 5.10 **Cartoon's War**. Part four (R) 5.35 **Willie the Wisp** and **The Mice Touch** (R).
5.40 **Story Minutes**.
6.40 **Harry**. With Russell on the stage of London's Greenwood Theatre as he commences Julie Walters and Victoria Wood.
7.10 **Ted**. American comedy series about the drivers of the Sunshine Cab Company of New York who, this week, become involved in the fight against...
7.30 **And the Winner Wins**. The three old fogies decide to rescue Wally Batty from the tyranny of Nora, but returning him to the nuptial home proves a little tricky.
8.05 **Spyglass**. The final episode of the drama serial about a British traitor that mysteriously disappeared in the Bering Sea.
9.00 **A Party Political Broadcast** on behalf of the Conservative Party.
9.05 **News** with Sue Lawley.
9.30 **G.E.D.: The Bet, the Blossom and the Biologist**. The fascinating story of a bet that London is a plant that blooms only once every twenty-five years.
10.00 **Sportspoint**, introduced by Harry Carpenter, includes highlights of tonight's Wales v Yugoslavia football match.
10.05 **Royal Film Premiere**. Michael Wood interviews some of the stars and personalities attending the premiere of the latest Bond movie, **Never Say Never Again**.
11.10 **News headlines**.
11.20 **One Night in Lincoln** with Mike Harding (R).
11.50 **Weather**.

TV-am

6.25 **Good Morning Britain**, presented by Nick Owen and John Stapleton. A review of the morning papers at 6.25; news with Gavin Scott at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.40; exercises at 6.45 and 9.15; Winsey and friends at 6.50; John Stapleton with a guest in the Spotlight at 7.05; Susan George interviewed from 7.35; Fenton Fraser's casebook at 7.45; pop video at 7.55; Arthur Scargill's magic moments at 8.05; Eve Pollard's gossip column at 8.35; closing news headlines at 8.55.
12.00 **Thames news headlines** followed by **Sesame Street**. **12.30** **Thames news**. **1.30** **The Muppets**. **10.25** **Film: Muppet's One in Tandem** (1974) starring Claude Akins. A hula-hoop contractor chooses a law graduate as a partner and together they help an orange farmer get his crop to market. Directed by Bernard Kowalski. **11.35** **Film: Fun - The Movie**. Highlights from some of the films to have been made in British studios (R).
12.00 **Burton Moon**. Puppet adventures of the Spoon family. **12.10** **Rainbow**. Learning with puppets (R). **12.30** **Rock With a Talking**. Derek Batey talks to writer, producer, director and presenter Alan Melville, about his life and full career.
1.00 **News** with Leonard Parkin. **1.30** **Thames news**. **1.50** **A Plus**. Key Avia chairs a discussion on the risks of caesarean section births between Dr Wendy Savage, Professor Chamberlain and Dr Judith Trowell. **2.00** **The High Road**. Drama serial set on a Scottish highland estate.
2.30 **Snooker**. Coverage of 1983 World Doubles 1983 tournament at Northampton's Dargdale Centre. **3.30** **Sons and Daughters**. Australian-made drama series.
4.00 **Burton Moon**. A repeat of the programme shown at noon 4.15 **Dangerousness** and the Planet of the Cats (R). **4.30** **Bumblebee**. The Vampire Rabbit. Cartoon series 4.45 **The Squad**. The police cadets witness a serious accident during training. The last in the series (R). **5.15** **Different Strokes**.
5.45 **News**. **6.00** **Thames news**. **6.25** **Help! Mr Taylor** goes to the College of Health. **6.30** **Crossroads**. Doris Lee returns from the medium with a surprising discovery.
7.00 **Name That Tune**. Tom O'Connor is the host in another of the musical quiz series.
7.30 **Coronation Street**. Black crows abound as the late Len Fairclough is laid to rest.
8.00 **This is Your Life**. Eamonn Andrews lies in wait for another celebrity whose life will flash before him or her in a usually all-too-short half-hour.
8.30 **Up the Elephant and Round the Castle**. Comedy series featuring London comedian Jim Davidson as the proud owner of a terraced house in south London.
9.00 **Chessgame**. Episode four of the six-part spy thriller starring Terence Stamp.
10.00 **A Party Political Broadcast** on behalf of the Conservative Party.
10.05 **News**.
10.35 **Snooker**. Highlights of the day's play in the Holmeist World Doubles Tournament.
12.15 **Night Thoughts** from the Rev Jim Graham.



Baroness Ewart-Biggs.
Radio 4 4.10pm



Terence Stamp and Carmen du Sautoy in Chessgame.
ITV 9.00pm



William Golding.
Channel 4 9.00pm

BBC 2

5.35 **News summary** with subtitles.
5.40 **Year of the French**. December: The Iron Baron. A party at the Alsace chateau of aristocrat Baron Gilbert de Dietrich and his wife (R).
6.10 **Grange Hill**. The final episode of the comprehensive school drama (R).
6.40 **Film: An American in Paris** (1951) starring Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron. Kelly plays an expatriate American living as an artist in Paris. He is loved by a beautiful heiress but his heart goes out to a poor orphan who is already engaged, played by Miss Caron in her first screen role. Directed by Vincent Minnelli.
8.30 **Nature**, presented by Tony Sopor. This week's programme examines the effect of the slaughter of 107,000 elephants in the southern Sudan. The market has now been flooded with unwanted, poor quality, ivory at the same time threatening to reduce the elephant population in the region to crisis point. Why has this illegal trade been allowed to flourish? With Jeremy Cherfas and Brian Lamb.
9.00 **Entertainment USA**. This week Jonathan King is in Washington DC, where he talks to presidential hopeful and former astronaut, John Glenn; takes in a variety of specialist radio stations including one that plays nothing but the top forty records and another that caters only for the Black American market; and interviews Martin Walsh and Izora Armstrong, two overweight ladies who perform an outrageous singing act under the name of The Weathergirls. There are also reviews of the latest records and videos.
9.30 **Arena: The GPO Story**. A tribute to the fifty year old GPO film unit, which, under the leadership of John Grierson, made films that have now proved to be a fascinating insight into everyday life of the 1930s and 40s. The programme includes excerpts from *Night Mail*, *The North Sea* and *Song of Ceylon*, visits to the locations and studios where the films were made and interviews with those who made them including cameraman Chick Frowe.
10.30 **A Party Political Broadcast** on behalf of the Conservative Party.
10.35 **News**.
11.00 **Film: La Déesse** (1978) Starring Madeleine Renaud and Claude Rains. The story of the strange relationship that grows between young man and the 11-year-old girl he kidnaps. Directed by Jacques Doillon (subtitles).
12.40 **Closedown**.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 **Countdown**. The second semi-final of the anagrams and mental arithmetic competition. This week's Grand Final. A party at the Alsace chateau of aristocrat Baron Gilbert de Dietrich and his wife (R).
6.10 **Grange Hill**. The final episode of the comprehensive school drama (R).
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Radio 4

6.00 **News Briefing**.
6.10 **Farming Today**.
6.25 **Shipping Forecast**.
6.30 **News**, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and 9.30.
7.00 **News Summary**.
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